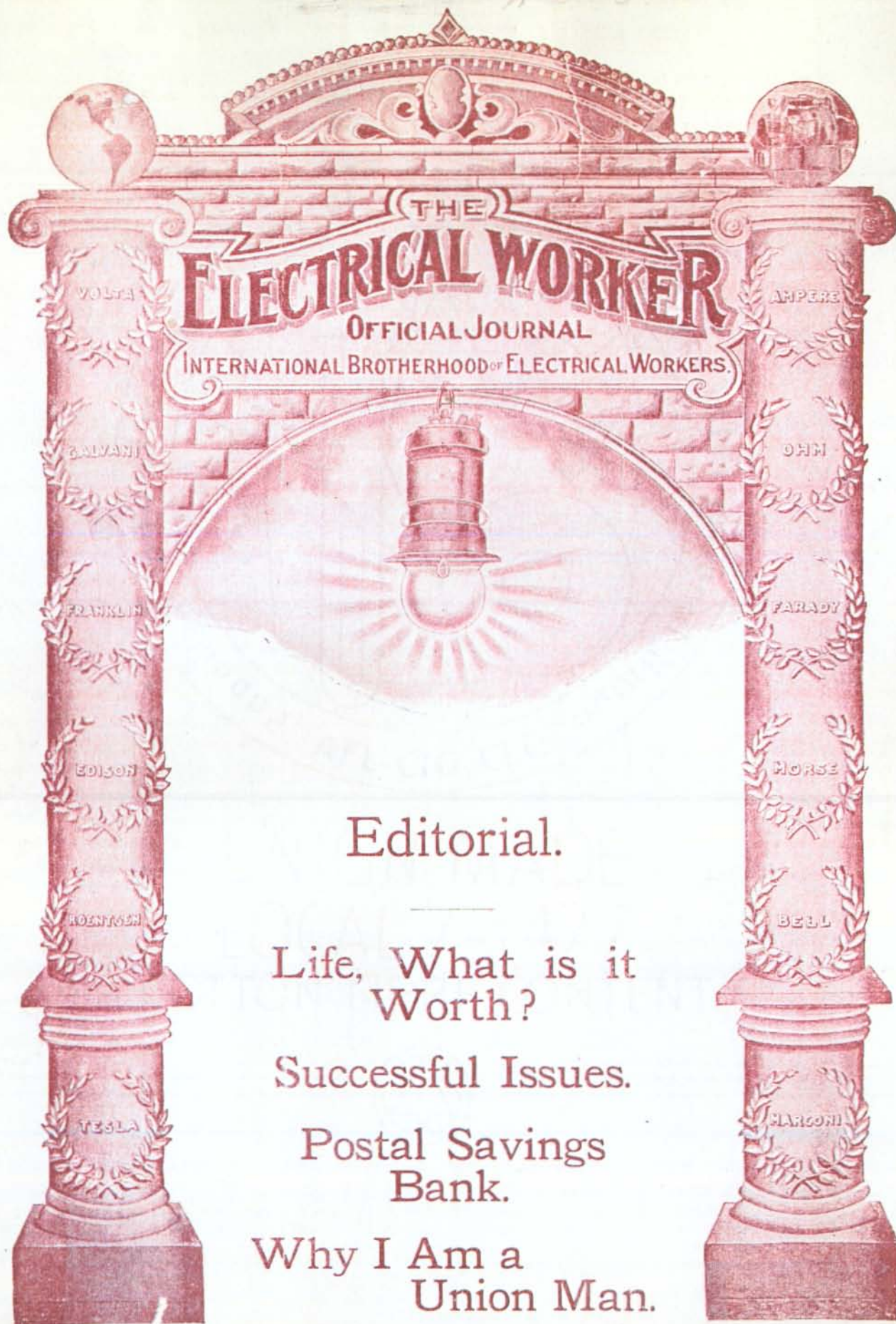
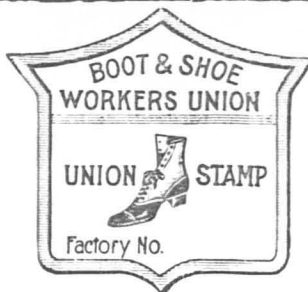


OCTOBER, 1906





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1 CAN
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Allen

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Is a sure preventative of CORROSIVE DISEASE.

IT SAVES TIME AND MONEY

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Send for sample can,

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Are just what their name implies—Fuses that do not arc but indicate.
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Bossert Boxes

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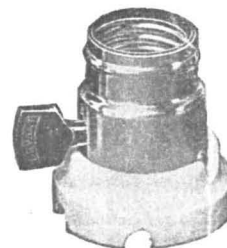
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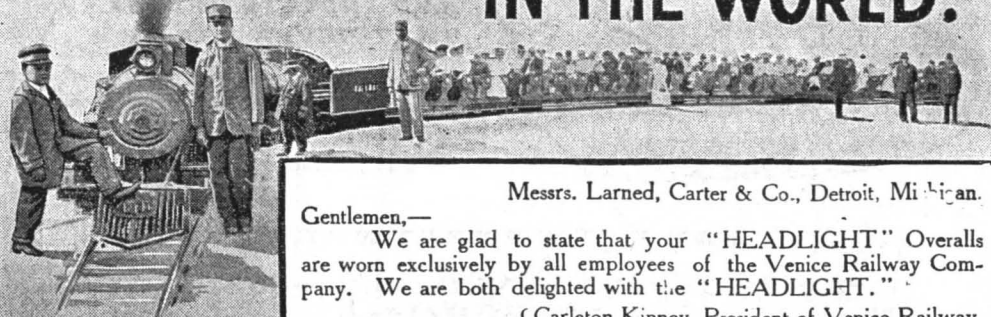


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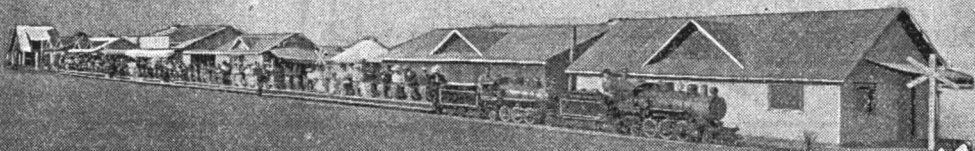


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We are glad to state that your "HEADLIGHT" Overalls are worn exclusively by all employees of the Venice Railway Company. We are both delighted with the "HEADLIGHT."

Signed, { Carleton Kinney, President of Venice Railway.
Innis Kinney, Engineer, Venice Railway.

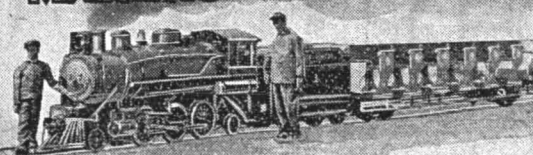


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UNION MADE

OVERALLS

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MAKERS DETROIT, MICH.



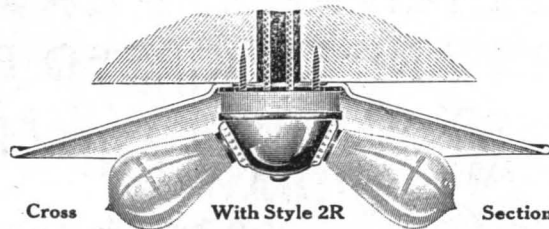
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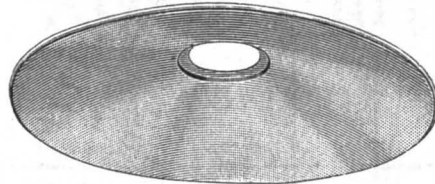
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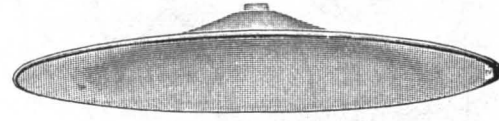


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White Without



IN-DOOR

**ARE INDESTRUCTABLE
THEY NEVER BREAK**



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ARE USED EVERYWHERE

Can be Furnished With Collar for 2 1-4
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EVERYBODY

HAS A GOOD WORD FOR

COLUMBIA CARBONS

Most Uniform.

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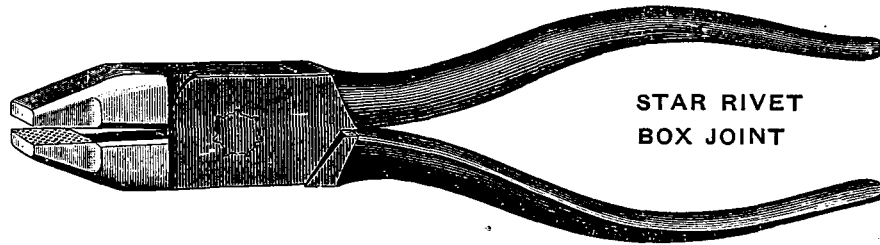
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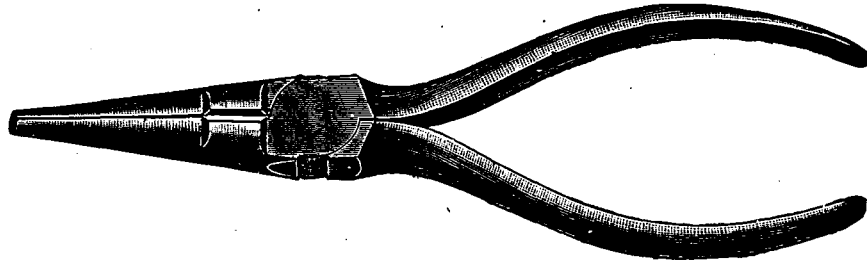
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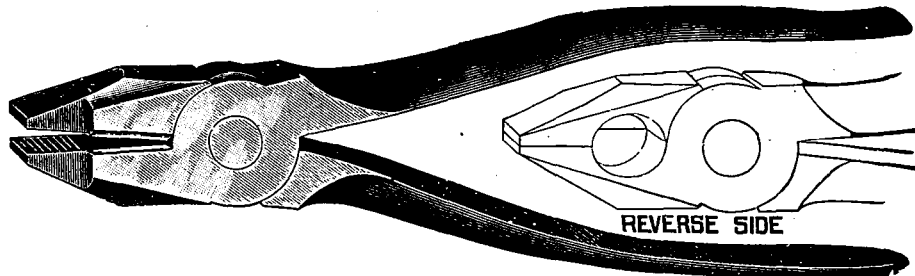


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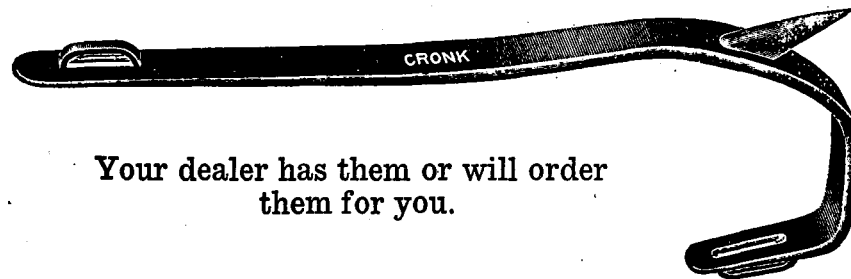
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OFFICIAL JOURNAL

of the

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

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THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

Edited by PETER W. COLLINS, Grand Secretary

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THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL
BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

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SPRINGFIELD, ILL., OCTOBER, 1906

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\$1 per year in advance

LETTER FROM G. V. P. NOONAN.

On August 23d, a strike was called on the entire system of Missouri and Kansas Telephone Co., this was after nearly four months of conferences with officials of the company who promised committees time and again that, if, after an investigation of conditions given and wages paid by other Bell companies throughout the country, they found the wages paid by this company was not up to the standard or nearly so they would raise them so as (to use their own expression) to get in line.

The time for the company to investigate was extended from time to time by the several committees who waited on the company, believing the company was acting in good faith. I exacted a promise from the president of the company that they would not use the time granted to break in men or fortify the company for a strike. This promise was freely and fully given. At last, after more than three months had been consumed and the company positively refused to better the wages one penny to even the lowest paid journeymen and took the initiative by discharging a number of the most active union men, the strike was called. The last proposition submitted to the company by us was to raise the journeymen to whom they were paying \$2.40 per day to \$2.50 and give subforemen or head linemen as the company terms them \$2.75 per day or twenty-five cents more than journeymen.

Considering the fact that head linemen act as foremen for a gang and also perform the work of a lineman this we considered as a very reasonable demand.

This however, was refused, and as the strike was inevitable the sooner called the better. The company after promising not to use the time allowed them to make their investigation to break in new men, immediately started a school for cable splicers at Topeka, Kansas, promising the students they would get the wages of journeymen cable splicers when competent. This verbally, but having them sign a contract which stated the school would procure them positions as cable splicers at \$2.50 per day.

Below see copy of agreement signed by prospective students. They told a number of the boys who had served the full term of four weeks that there was no strike on and most of the boys refused to scab when they found out the true condition of affairs.

The strike is on nearly six weeks and very few men who came out have returned to work and none of the old union men at all, the few who went back are men who were non-union men who came out and took out cards after the strike was on. The company says they have men enough but could use about 400 more. The work is in very bad shape. They were just ready to cut over in a number of places and had a great deal of temporary work in the air. All organized labor in this District is in sympathy with us. We are asking a ten per cent raise in pay with an agreement and as our cause is just, I hope the near future will bring us a victory. We cannot afford to lose.

Fraternally, J. P. NOONAN.

Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 1, 1906.

NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT COUNCIL NO. 1.

I wish to call the attention of all Locals in the jurisdiction of the Northwestern District Council, which includes Minnesota, North and South Dakota and Superior, Wis., that the Constitution and By-Laws of the Council will be sent out about the first of October for your approval or rejection as a whole. All votes must be in by October 31, 1906. Blank ballots and full information will be sent out by the Secretary-Treasurer, so kindly

have your vote in on or before the said date.

Trusting you will attend to this matter as soon as it comes before you so the Council can get down to business.

Thanking you one and all in advance, with best wishes to the brotherhood at large, I beg to remain,

Yours fraternally,

FRANK FISHER.

Duluth, Minn., Oct. 1, 1906.

THE COMMISSION ON PUBLIC OWNERSHIP AND OPERATION, NATIONAL CIVIC FEDERATION.

THE INVESTIGATION ABROAD.

Fifteen members of the Committee of Twenty-one sailed from New York on May 22d, and completed their work abroad in six weeks. They began their itinerary—arranged in advance by Messrs. Maltbie and Sullivan, who, with eight experts, had preceded the Committee three months—at Dublin, and concluded their labors at London. In all their examinations the Committee consulted with the engineers and accountants. Not only did these technichists accompany the Committee upon its visits to the many plants inspected, but there were also engaged—in pairs, the one the nominee of the pro, the other of the anti members—in completing the critical examination of the plants coming under their respective jurisdictions.

The experts were:

Street Railways—Norman McD. Crawford, (Hartford, Conn.)

Gas—J. R. Klumpp, (Germantown, Pa.)
Wm. Newbigging, (Manchester.)

Electric Lighting and Power—J. H. Woodward, (London), A. E. Winchester, (So. Norwalk, Conn.)

Messrs. Marwick, Mitchell & Co., (New York and London) and Robert C. James, (Wallingford, Pa.), accountants.

Labor conditions in the plants chosen for investigation were investigated by Prof. John R. Commons (Wisconsin University), and J. W. Sullivan (Editor of The Clothing Trades Bulletin, New York).

The data these experts were required to obtain had all been indicated beforehand in very comprehensive schedules, described in the April number of The National Civic Federation Review. The Committee will be largely guided by these and the American schedules in framing its final report.

The cities visited and the kind of plants examined were as follows:

Dublin, Street Railways, private.

Glasgow, Street Railways, public; electric, public; gas, public.

New Castle-on-Tyne, Electric, private; gas, private.

Manchester, Electric, public; street railways, public; gas, public.

Leicester, Gas, public; electric, public; street railways, public.

Sheffield, Gas, private.

Birmingham, Gas, public.

Liverpool, Electric, public; street railways, private.

Norwich, Street railways, private.

London, Electric, public and private; street railways, private; gas, private.

At Glasgow the Committee's work was

especially promoted by the fact of its having the very friendly cooperation of so noted an exponent of municipal ownership as Manager Dalrymple of the City's Tramways. At London similar assistance was rendered by Sir Clifton Robinson, whose interests in private companies is not exceeded by those of any other man in Great Britain.

Hearings were held at London at which leading exponents of company management were heard. Among those who attended these hearings were Lord Avebury, Mr. Sydney Morse, President of the Chamber of Commerce; Mr. Emil Garcke, of the Industrial Freedom League; Mr. Dixon H. Davies, solicitor; and Mr. Robert P. Porter, of the London *Times*. The principal exponents of municipal ownership were also heard. Among the latter were Mr. T. McKinnon Wood, of the London County Council; Mr. J. Allen Baker, Chairman of the London Municipal Tramways; Mr. Robert Donald, of the London *Chronicle*, and the Rt. Hon. John Burns, President of the Local Government Board.

From the very beginning great interest was manifested in the work of the Commission. Boards of trade, private companies, city governments, labor leaders, members of Parliament, officials of the National Government, representatives of rate payers' associations—all seemed interested, and every facility was placed at the command of the Committee.

The general sentiment was that the report of the Commission should be of no less value to the people of Great Britain and Ireland than to the people of America. The fact that so many men drawn from different walks of life, and of such diversity of opinion, could be gotten together and dispatched upon so important a mission, was much commented upon; as was the further fact, that they had set out to determine the actual conditions in each case, by employing a corps of engineers and accountants. In short, the Commission and its sponsor, the National Civic Federation, were warmly commended for having undertaken a work of such manifest importance to cities.

THE FUTURE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE.

The last meeting held in London adopted a resolution outlining a plan for the accomplishment of the remaining work of the Committee. This resolution provides:

That as schedules are completed copies of same to be promptly furnished mem-

bers of Committee; that Dr. Maltbie prepare a history of parliamentary action in relation to the municipal utilities under investigation; Prof. Goodnow, a report on political conditions in the municipalities of the United Kingdom as compared with such conditions in the United States, same to include a discussion of the relation of said political conditions to public and private operation of the particular municipal utilities; Profs. Bemis and Parsons and Messrs. Walton Clark and Edgar, either jointly or individually, such statements for the plants investigated here and abroad; that the schedules for each plant be collated in a clear concise statement for the use of the Committee in drafting its report; that the officers of the Committee prepare a general statement of conclusions and recommendations that may be used as a basis of discussion and adoption with such recommendation as the Committee may order, etc., etc.

In this country the work of investigation is almost completed. The cities that have been visited are: Wheeling, Alleghany, Indianapolis, Chicago and South Norwalk; a number of other cities have been examined by the experts and by members of the Committee whose work has been specialized. The experts employed in the American investigation are:

Gas—J. R. Klumpp; Fred C. Burnett, (Toronto); A. E. Farstall, (New York.)

Electric Lighting and Power—C. E. Phelps, Jr., (Baltimore); Theo. Stebbins, (Columbus, Ohio); A. E. Winchester, (S. Norwalk, Conn.)

Water—Dabney H. Maury, (Peoria, Ill.)

Accountants—Marwick, Mitchell & Co.

A report upon the Massachusetts method of regulating the electric lighting industry is being prepared by Alton D. Adams, (Worcester), and C. I. R. Humphreys of Humphreys, Glasgow & Co., (New York).

Expert work not technical in character in relation to the plants selected, is being performed by Prof. John H. Gray, Northwestern University; and Walter L. Fisher, of Chicago, has prepared a report upon the history of the municipal lighting plant of that city; Prof. Leo. S. Rowe, University of Pennsylvania, has made a similar report on the gas question in Philadelphia. The special investigation into labor conditions is now being completed by Prof. Commons and Mr. Sullivan.

It is expected that Cleveland, Philadelphia, and one or two other large cities will be visited by the Committee within the next thirty days. After which the sub-committee provided for in the resolution referred to will complete the duties assigned them. This will be followed by one or more meetings of the Committee, at which its report will be drafted.

At the present time the work of collating the matter contained in the completed schedules—the data gathered by the experts—in such a way as to make its assimilation more easy, is now being proceeded with.

It is expected that the Committee will be ready to report to the entire Commission about December 1st.

WHY I AM A UNION MAN.

W. P. HICKS, WOODWORKER.

First—Because I propose to protest against any man or set of men stealing my right to health, home and happiness.

Second—Because I want plenty of good food in my craw, along with the sand that is there, and I want to see my fellowmen have the same blessing.

Third—Because I am not afraid to line up with my fellow workers and make an honest demand for that which is our heritage.

Fourth—Because I am opposed to filth and ignorance and in favor of health and knowledge.

Fifth—Because I think more of an honest heart under a ragged shirt than I do of a block-head with a bank account.

Sixth—Because a union man is never disrespected by any except red-eyed, money-grabbing individuals with more money than kindness.

Seventh—Because when I pay my dues into the union I feel that I am stirring some thickening into a bowl of soup for some poor, hungry, half-clad woman or child.

Eighth—Because I had rather be unpopular with double-chinned dough-heads than to show the white feather to my fellow workmen.

Ninth—Because I believe it is better to give than to receive, and by being a union man I am giving my influence and money to those who deserve and should receive it.

Tenth—Because I am in favor of more bread and less brutishness; more pie and less punk; more homes and less shacks, and less cowards and criminals; more soup and less superstition; more health and happiness and less hell and hellishness; more honest women neatly dressed and less foolish women overdressed; more live, loving husbands and fewer dirty, drunken drones.

Eleventh—Because "in union there is strength," and in strength there is knowledge, and in knowledge there is strength, and in strength there is health, and in health there is happiness, and all sensible people want to be happy.

EDITORIAL.

PETER W. COLLINS.

LIFE, WHAT IS IT WORTH?

Our subject is as old as nature itself. The theme of philosophers, scientists and scholars of all ages and climes loses not one whit of its interest or importance when considered from the personal standpoint. That personal point of view which is inevitably cropping up and deserves from us, a fair and impartial answer. Your point of view. Our point of view. What is it? How was it formed? We cannot, perhaps, accord it that thought and analysis it deserves. We cannot scientifically treat of its relation to other great problems of life from the classic standpoint, but we can and often do accord it that natural, free and unrestrained thought, in its bearing, its application to each effort of our daily life. And consciously or unconsciously we reason from these inherent premises: that life from each of our points of view individually and in the aggregate is worth just what we make it worth to us, and we help make it worth to others. No more or no less. An unjust estimate of its worth is oftentimes gauged by our reverses in life. Our disappointments and our failures cause us to weigh in the scales of prejudice the efforts and intentions shattered on the rocks of adversity and incompetence; blaming our mistakes, our follies in life on the injustice of fate. That supposedly irrevocable law evidently intended for our emergencies. In the past we have no doubt felt that fate has been kind to us; that we have been successful in our undertaking. But somehow things have changed. In other words luck is against us. We should realize that just so much as fate has been kind to us; just so much as we have prospered; just so much as we have succeeded in life; do we owe to our effort. It is what we owe to our effort. Fate owes us nothing. But the broad great plan of human endeavor is ever before us and "as we sow, so shall we reap." Results don't come from fate, but from ourselves. There are no victims of fate. But many victims of self. That self which only too easily gives up the battle and loads the odium of failure on the imaginary shoulders of fate. And what a load to bear. The kindness which in the past has been so graciously lavished is indeed needed by fate itself. For be the shoulders ever so broad, ever so great, the load of human disappointments, that are blaming fate for their lack of success in life, would stagger even our old friend, Hercules.

Life is indeed full of all those things that constitute happiness; full of promise for the future and greater things to be done. We can add to it immeasurably by striving to appreciate its real value; by looking forward with a broad view; by becoming participants in all the good that it shares and then we can at least feel that life is worth our best effort. For the things that are worth having, are worth striving for.

Talents like metal needs polish to brighten them; polish them often with argument that they may retain their lustre; exercise them with foresight that they may not decay in youth, and use them with discretion that wisdom may not forsake them in old age.

SUCCESSFUL The consistent and systematic campaign of the Labor Move-
ISSUES. ment to secure for the people honest and fearless repre-
 sentatives in their halls of legislation, particularly in Congress,

has met with a splendid response from the voters in those districts where the effort has been made, and though it may be early to predict the future from the very promising results thus far secured, yet, they point beyond question of doubt to greater success. One of the most delightful humors of the campaign just opened is the unique method of the "System's" mercenaries the subsidized press—in attempting to deceive the public with their most carefully prepared but deliberate misrepresentations. But their effect is nil, for the people can easily perceive their intent. A feature that gives a great amount of pleasure and gratification is the splendid unanimity of trade unionists from one end of the country to the other, adding by such unanimity to the prestige of the movement and encouraging President Gompers as nothing else could for it is by the will of the rank and file that the work is being carried on and the effort being made and the victories to be won must be by their hearty cooperation.

There is nothing which would give our enemies greater satisfaction than to see the forces of organized labor divided, and the henchmen of the "interests" have worked more than eight hours a day to accomplish such a division. But thanks to the integrity of the rank and file, thanks to the powers of perception of those who are trade unionists, the solid front presented to the enemy has not only demoralized their forces but has caused them to call on Teddy for assistance. Those members of Congress least deserving of White House condescension have hoisted the danger signal, and now call on all voters to rally around the President.

What a blessed spectacle for the American people! Members of Congress who opposed every effort for remedial legislation, and who were most bitter in their denunciation of the "Rough Rider" now appeal to him to allow the magic of his name to carry them back again to their happy hunting grounds. Not the proverbial hunting grounds of Indian legendary, where the dead sleep the sleep of the just; but the hunting grounds in the Capital city where the live ones gather and trim the good old ship of State to their hearts content, leaving only her majestic hull as an object lesson to American youth of future generations. And yet the most remarkable (though not surprising to those who know him best) thing is the complete acquiescence of the hero of San Juan, and the personal appeal sent from Oyster Bay shows the fine hand of a master politician in its preparation. There is none greater than our own Theodore. But even with his excessive generosity to the hirelings of the "interests" we are convinced that the memory of the public is not as fickle as his, and that in the accounting of their stewardship on election day the voters will administer that stinging rebuke which is well merited.

We have great faith in the people and we feel it is not misplaced. And the Labor Movement! What a campaign of education it has started. Though its efforts for the past quarter of a century have been unremitting in the cause of honest legislation, the work which it has now started out to accomplish, will result in great good to the body politic. Let each of us feel, that in forgetting partisan spirit, and combining in the ranks of labor, we are adding to that progress which makes us a better and more enlightened people.

POSTAL SAVINGS BANK.

Certain events which transpired in banking circles during the past few months have brought to the attention of all thinking people, more forcibly than any argument, the absolute necessity for a system of postal savings banks as a part of the United States Postal Service. It is unnecessary to point out the many individual cases of bank presidents' absconding with millions, the savings of the industrious and thrifty depositors, and particularly those who could ill afford it, the working men. Space would hardly permit and patience with existing conditions might give way to indignation, and the point at issue, the moral, be forgotten.

It can with reason be said, that if such conditions exist during times when boasted prosperity is in our midst, what will happen when times are not so prosperous. It is evident that the people are not really as awake to the importance of this problem as they should be. The farseeing realize its importance and are urging the adoption of the postal savings bank.

At the present day the amount of savings at the mercy of stock manipulators cannot be estimated by us, manipulators whose sense of right and of duty is gauged by the amount in it for them. We do not wish to convey the idea that all bankers are dishonest, but we do believe that the proportion of honest ones is not as great as it might be, and we hope to see the time come when their opportunity for dishonest practice will be eliminated; emphasizing the old adage: "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

The proposition advocated by the friends of Postal Savings is a sound and a practical one, and one that will give great, if not greater, benefits to the public than the present postal service, although the value of that service is great.

Let us hope that its accomplishment may be a matter of but a very short time.

The desire for greatness is the folly of little minds.

Justice to oneself is as essential as justice to others.

To succeed in anything one must first know his merit for something.

Ridicule can never defeat the purpose of argument, when argument is right.

Diplomacy is the art of convincing ourselves that we have outwitted others.

Vanity is a most expensive luxury; few can possess it without becoming bankrupt.

When we judge others by *their* shortcomings we are not as liberal as when we judge them by our own.

Most of our worries concern our neighbors welfare; some attention to our own occasionally brings good results.

OUR AMATEUR ADVISERS.

M. H. BATTENBERG, CHICAGO, ILL., IN TYPOGRAPHICAL JOURNAL.

"Labor is worship" is a pleasant saying;
But those who say so never do their
praying
With pick or shovel, hammer, tongs or
anvil,
If they can help it.

Also, labor is noble and holy, but
whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise
—for labor is not an end, but a means.

The wild joy of digging a sewer, the delirious excitement of carrying a hod, the passionate rhapsody of running a sewing machine fourteen hours for 50 cents—all these appear in myriad forms in high school essays and summer resort stories, and touch to the soul the sentimental reformer, who thinks the world will become better and wiser as soon as the proper number of coffee houses has been established and he has discovered a cottage which can be erected in such a manner as to contain a unit of the laboring class without the necessity of its feet protruding from the window far enough to interfere with the passing automobile while it is slumbering the sweet and refreshing slumber of honest toil, and which may be erected for the sum of \$27.89 next to an alley.

But to the man digging the sewer and that coarse personage carrying the hod, and to the dead-faced woman who is running the sewing machine, these joys do not appeal. They have no poetry in their souls; they do not enthuse.

They are not working because they need the physical exercise—that kind of work is golf and lawn tennis, and can only be enjoyed by a well-fed animal at peace with the world. But the work they are doing is work that must be done, and some must do it, and golf and lawn tennis are in the world to be enjoyed, and some may enjoy them; and the real and burning problem confronting the world is how to give the man who does the work the opportunity to enjoy the golf and lawn tennis, and how to get the woman away from the sewing machine long enough so that her face will come to life again and express some of the gladness of the world instead of all of its sorrow.

The boundaries of our earthly existence are birth and death. Between these two points lies the solemn fact of living, with its obligations and privileges, sorrows and songs, and its great problem of apportioning the rewards to the burdens borne.

The great duty of all men physically and mentally fit its service; the great right of all who serve rightly is pay; and not only justice but policy demands

that the useful should be protected from the useless.

All leisure, all opportunity for rational enjoyment, is earned by work of some kind; is the fruit of the growing intelligence of mankind and the manifold labors of men. None of it is earned by playing bridge whist—that is just one way of using it after it is earned—nor is it earned by gambling in grain or by juggling stocks, for these are only methods of taking it from those who have it, and it must first be earned by work of some sort—by a true service which has tended to the preservation or enlargement of the truly human good in the world—the moral, intellectual or physical capital of society.

Not all work is true service. A man may acquire a perspiration and a backache by balancing a peacock's tail feather on the end of his nose in the privacy of his own apartments, but the taking of a feather from one end of a bird and putting it on the other end of a fool does not increase the value of either, and approaches quite closely to art for art's sake, being labor for labor's sake.

The hope of the toiling masses does not lie in many coffee houses, nor can their future be placed in the hands of those who are prescribing \$27.89 cottages. These are trying to reform the productive end of society to fit the views of the consumer. They are trying to make men cheaper in order that dollars may buy more of their labor, to cut the money cost of the useful and add the savings to the income of the intensely useless. They find a hearing even in the ranks of labor, because many of those who make their living honestly are either longing for the unattainable or crying for something they can't get. Such we have had with us always. The Utopian idea of the communist was infinitely older than the libraries and galleries of art and science his torch destroyed; the theory of the relation of the sexes held by Gorky is as old as the existence of dogs—but even these, when uncontaminated by encroaching civilization, pair for a sufficient season to allow their young to reach a moderate degree of maturity.

These things may do very well for subjects of conversation among long-haired philosophers at pink teas, but the trade and labor unions are not preaching a pink-tea philosophy. Their ethics begin with man as a man in all human relationships; as a member of a family, bringing into the field of labor the motives born of household affections, nu-

tured by congenial relations, guided by individual aspirations; as a being with an inalienable right to redeem himself from toil by toil, to profit by his own labor, and to possess in fee himself, his ability, and all the emoluments arising from his own improvement, mental and physical.

In the comparatively brief space of their existence the trade and labor unions have done a great work for humanity, but about the most important task that confronts them now is to choke off the eminent donkeys who, posing as the friends of toil, want to reform us with coffee houses and \$27.89 cottages, and are trying to spread out a dime's worth of charity to conceal a dollar's worth of sin.

Let us go forth and reform these reformers. Let us take them by the hand gently, as one leads the blind, draw them into paths of common honesty and horse sense, and point out to them that if the laboring man got an honest share of the profits of his labor he could build a house without any assistance from pink-tea theorists. Let us explain to them that poverty is not a necessity, but a by-product of luxury. Let us call their attention to the fact that the Coreys, the Willie Thaws and the Stanford Whites who are endeavoring to corral the chorus girl with an indefinite past, a shady present and a doubtful future, are expensive luxuries—not only because they cost money, but because they exalt moral filth to a pinnacle—and that such as these, being dangerous to public morality and worthless to public progress, should be asked to inhabit the \$27.89 cottages, dine at cheap coffee houses, and be subjected to the advice of pink-tea philosophers.

For a good many years our self-appointed advisers have been warning trade and labor unions of the danger of entering politics, until at last, with the assistance of a few injunction judges, labor leaders have come to the conclusion that only by entering politics directly can labor gain the protection of just laws ad-

ministered by honest judges for the protection of labor's capital—its skill, intelligence and ability—and prevent the useful members of society from being preyed upon by the intensely useless. It is only by making influence felt that labor can have any influence at all.

Amateur advisers are the most dangerous enemies of labor. Their theories are always tending to draw attention away from the great big fact that wealth is poverty when its accumulations are purchased by the degradation of those who produce it.

The cost of human labor can not be measured by the expenditure of material things alone—of dollars in wages, or of food and clothing for the laborer—but we must also consider that each hodful of mortar carried to the third story, each shovelful of mud thrown out of the sewer each shirt finished by the dead-faced woman, represents an appreciable part of a human life; so much sacrificed in order that the rest may be made more enjoyable. We can not define work at all unless we recognize this personal factor in production as well as the material factors in the thing produced. It is a human being with hopes and aspirations, not a machine or a beast of burden, who does the day's work; and the progress of the world is the sum of days' work, not of the golf and lawn tennis played, of the chorus girls wooed with offerings of creme de menthe and automobile rides, nor yet of the scandals among Pittsburg millionaires.

There is food for reflection in the following from S. E. Kiser's column in the Chicago Record-Herald:

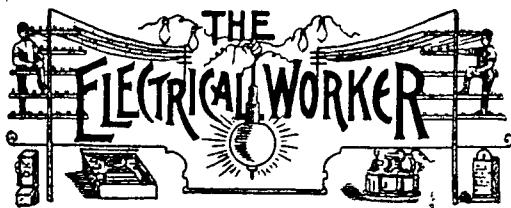
A TIP FROM UNCLE DAVID.
Wouldn't be much weepin',
Wouldn't be much care
If the speculators
Went to work somewhere,
'Stid of speculatin',
Where the ticker croaks,
With the money earned by
Poor, hard-workin' folks.

ARKANSAS STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR.

The Arkansas State Federation of Labor will hold its fourth annual convention at Forth Smith, December 10, and every union in the state should be represented at this meeting. With perhaps not over one-half of the labor unions in the state affiliated, the State Federation has done a great work in increasing the use of union label goods in the state as well as the demand for union workmen. It has secured the passage of several laws in the interest of labor, has created friendly relations between the farmers and trade unions, and has perfected an

arrangement between the Farmers State Union, and the State Federation of Labor to assist one another when possible. The conditions of organized labor today are such that every union in the state should be prepared to act in unison with sister unions, something that can be accomplished readily only through a state federation. For full information regarding the Arkansas State Federation of Labor, write to

L. N. MOORE, Sec.-Treas.,
Box 443, Little Rock, Ark.



Official Journal of the
INTERNATIONAL

Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Published Monthly.

PETER W. COLLINS, Editor.
Pierik Building, Springfield, Illinois.

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Subscription, \$1.00 per Year, in Advance.

As The Electrical Worker reaches the men who do the work and recommend or order the material, its value as an advertising medium can be readily appreciated.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., OCTOBER, 1906.

Advertising rates may be secured by writing to the Editor.

This Journal will not be held responsible for views expressed by correspondents.

The Third of each month is the closing date; all copy must be in our hands on or before.



Illinois State Journal Co., Springfield.

Votes of Executive Board on Rejected Death Claims.

		King	McLaughlin	O'Connor	Godshall	Fitzgerald	Graham	Lothouse
Davey, L. U.	42	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Elkins, "	323	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Goddard, "	192	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Bell, "	34	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Jocelyn, "	62	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
McCulloch "	184	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Embrey "	194	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Claggett "	27	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

In favor of paying claims—Yes.
Opposed—No.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Dist. Coun. Pres. Potter of No. 3 of First District, notifies the G. O. that an unauthorized appeal signed by party named "Robinson" is being sent to Local Unions.

Any information bearing on same should be sent to G. O. immediately.

NOTICES.

Logan, Ohio, contemplates building a municipal electric lighting plant. L. B. Engle is president of the board.

Satisfactory settlement with No. 381 by contractors of Chicago.

Received of Local No. 57, eighteen dollars and fifty cents (\$18.50).

DALE SMITH, P. D. C.

The L. B. Allen Co., (Inc.) would be pleased to forward their Blotter series consisting of the "International" the "College Girl" and the "Famous Paintings" series, to the various jobbing houses, and to prospective customers as well. Send for one. We will be very glad to take the matter up with jobbers who are interested in this form of advertising in connection with our various products, which include: Allen Soldering Stick; Sun Soldering Stick; Samson Soldering Stick; Allen Soldering Paste; Allen Soldering Salts; Allen Commutator Lubricant; Allen Liquid Flux.

Robert O. Law Company, Chicago, has adjusted its differences with organized labor, and is now running a strictly union printing office. This result was brought about by the good offices of the American Technical Society, also a Chicago firm, which has a large amount of work done in this office. The American Technical Society was, no doubt, influenced by the active assistance we have received by our brother trade unionists all over the country. From Maine to

California and from the Dominion of Canada to Texas we have received the sympathy and active co-operation of the various trades, the Electricians, Engineers, Plumbers, Machinists, Pattern Makers, and others rallying to the fight in a manner seldom if ever known heretofore. For their action in this matter and the many favors we have received at your hands we wish to express our thanks and appreciation. Will you kindly express through your paper the appreciation we are trying to indicate but which we so inadequately suggest. Our success is wholly attributable to the actions of our brothers and we desire to give them full credit of the result.

Please accept our thanks personally and for the organization.

Fraternally,

JOHN C. HARDING, Organizer.
EDWIN R. WRIGHT, President.

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 7, 1906.

ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Springfield, Ill.

Gentlemen:

We are in receipt of the following letter from one who has tried our material:

"I beg to acknowledge receipt of the samples of ALLEN Liquid Flux sent me on the 24th of July. I have tried the liquid on several large commutators, and like it better than anything I have ever used. I have asked the Company to place an order with you. ALLEN Liquid Flux or nothing for Commutators." No. 2833.

Very truly yours,

L. B. ALLEN, (Inc.)
STUART S. CRIPPEN,

LOCAL UNIONS IN ARREARS.

23	199	281	357	427
24	206	284	362	429
29	208	285	363	431
30	220	293	367	432
64	214	295	378	437
82	215	302	384	441
88	227	303	385	453
99	229	304	390	455
117	241	318	395	461
123	242	320	396	470
126	249	327	405	478
152	289	328	406	485
158	299	332	410	487
167	250	336	411	488
179	262	339	412	497
186	273	346	417	499
190	274	349	423	502

As the above Local Unions are in arrears traveling cards issued by them should not be accepted.

STRIKE NOTICE.

Strike on with Tri State Tel. Co. at Uniontown and Connellsville, Pa. Will notify all through the WORKER when settled.

Strike of No. 369, Louisville, Ky., against contractors settled.

DALE SMITH.

Wiremen stay away from Albany, N. Y. Strike on.

Local Union No. 170 of Mason City, Ia., restored the address of Financial Secretary J. J. Gorman, is 607 Cottage Grove Ave., Mason City, Ia.

Locals on Strike.

Philadelphia and vicinity, Bell Telephone Co.

Portland, Ore., Home Telephone Co.
Missouri and Kansas, Bell Telephone Company.

Connellsville, Pa., and Uniontown, Pa., Tri State Telephone Co.

Anna, Ill., Ohio and Mississippi Valley Telephone Co.

Elmira, N. Y., Bell Co.

Albany, N. Y., with contractors.

Strikes Settled.

Kokomo, Ind., Citizens Tel. Co.

Louisville, Ky., with contractors.

San Francisco, United Railways.

Charters Issued in September.

No. 518, Rumford Falls, Maine.

No. 519, Paris, Ill.

No. 520, Austin, Texas.

No. 521, Bridgeport, Conn.

No. 512, Changed from Albany, Ore., to Salem, Ore.

INFORMATION.

If Earl Jones or Will Chapman either see this write me a line at once.

Respectfully yours,

WILL FARRINGTON.

Helena, Mont., care Arlington Hotel.

If Edd Merritt, Fred Souley or Mack McKnight either see this write me a line.

Fraternally,

CHAS. MILLS.

Helena, Mont., care Arlington Hotel.

If Fonda Denny sees this or anyone knowing his whereabouts tell him to write to Bro. J. E. McCadden, 255 7th street, Buffalo, N. Y.; news of importance.

Any information relative to Geo. H. Grant, who formerly belonged to No. 121, Denver and No. 57, Salt Lake in 1902, will be appreciated by his sister Lillian G. Grant, 51 Pleasant street, Holyoke, Mass.

Anyone knowing the present whereabouts of Frank Fitzsimons, formerly of

East Syracuse, N. Y., kindly communicate with his father, Henry Fitzsimons, 27 Quackenbush street, Albany, N. Y.

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Fondy Deeney, please have him write to his brother, John Deeney, and oblige.

Any information regarding Bro. Eugene McCarthy, recently of No. 356, Kansas City, will be appreciated by F. J. McNulty, G. P.

Local No. 47 would like to know the whereabouts of J. A. Kaehm, as he owes a \$5.00 board bill here.

J. R. CRAWFORD,
Box 102, Financial Secretary.

Information as to Bro. Eugene Short would be appreciated by his mother, as she is ill and desires to hear from him. Address

MRS. ADA SHORT.
32 N. Wood st., Fremont, O.

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Geo. Wilson or Spitz Foster, please notify
G. D. RANKIN,
Granite City, Ill.
Care Kinloch Tel. Co.

IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO BOYCOTT

the

McClure, Delineator, Designer and
New Idea Magazines also
the Butterick Patterns:

Standard, New Idea, Butterick, Banner, Martha Dean, Home Dressmaker, La Belle, Metropolitan Fashions, and Little Folks. But this will notify you that they are unfair as they have locked out their employes for requesting the eight-hour workday.

The following are on the unfair list as well:

American Inventor, (M.)*
American Machinist, (W.)
American Museum Journal, (M.)
Automobile Topics, (W.)
Benziger's Magazine, (M.)
Burr-McIntosh, (M.)
Century, The, (M.)
Christian Advocate, (W.)
Country Life In America, (M.)
DELINEATOR, (M.)
DESIGNER, (M.)
Engineering and Mining Journal, (W.)
Forum, (Q.)
Garden Magazine, (M.)
Gentlewoman, (M.)
Homiletic Review, (M.)
Journal of the Telegraph, (M.)
L'Art de la Mode, (M.)
LITERARY DIGEST, (W.)
Marine Engineering, (M.)
McCLURE'S, (M.)

Modern-Review, (M.)
My Business Friend, (M.)
Nautical Gazette, (W.)
Navy League Journal, (M.)
NEW IDEA, (M.)
Paragon Monthly.
Photographic Times, (M.)
Power, (M.)
Power Boat News, (W.)
Rudder, The, (M.)
Smart Set, (M.)
St. Nicholas, (M.)
Tom Watson's Magazine, (M.)
Town and Country, (W.)
Town Topics, (W.)
Trust Companies, (M.)
Typewriter and Phonographic World.
Vogue, (W.)
World's Work, (M.)

BOSTON, MASS.

Black Cat, (M.)
Modern Priscilla, (M.)
Green Bag, (M.)

CINCINNATI, OHIO.

Men and Women, (M.)
PHILADELPHIA, PA.
The Ladies' Home Journal, (M.)
Saturday Evening Post, (W.)
SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

Good Housekeeping, (M.)
New England Homestead, (W.)
American Agriculturist, (W.)
Farm and Home, (S. M.)
Orange Judd Farmer, (W.)
SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

Woman's Home Companion, (M.)
Farm and Fireside, (S. M.)

*Abbreviations used—M, monthly; W, weekly; Q, quarterly; S M, semi-monthly.
TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION No. 6.

Talent and Genius.

BULWER.

Talent convinces—genius but excites;
This tasks the reason, that the soul delights.

Talent from sober judgment takes its birth,

And reconciles the pinion to the earth;
Genius unsettles with desires the mind,
Contented not till earth be left behind;
Talent, the sunshine on a cultured soil,
Ripens the fruit by slow degrees for toil.
Genius, the sudden Iris of the skies,
On cloud itself reflects its wondrous dyes;
And, to the earth, in tears and glory given,

Clasps in its airy arch the pomp of heaven!

Talent gives all that vulgar critics need—

From its plain horn-book learn the dull to read;

Genius, the Pythian of the beautiful,
Leaves its large truths a riddle to the dull—

From eyes profane, a veil the Isis screens
And fools on fools still ask "what Hamlet means."

LABOR'S FIRST SKIRMISH.

Story of the Anti-Littlefield Campaign—Written Immediately After Returning From Maine.

BY SAMUEL GOMPERS.

"Gompers Helped Me."—C. E. Littlefield.

Littlefield's Plurality, 1904.....5,419
 Littlefield's Plurality, 1906 (about).1,000

The above figures tell the tale of Labor's recent campaign in the Second Congressional District of Maine. On the evening of election day, returning from the campaign in Maine, I met, on the train, one of the prominent Republicans who had taken part in the campaign in that state. Among other things he repeated a statement, previously made to me by several others, to the effect that he doubted the wisdom of Labor making a fight in so great a Republican stronghold as Maine, and particularly Mr. Littlefield's district.

The answer I made to him was the same I had given to others, and to this effect:

"The election in Maine occurred before the general election in other parts of the country. Considering Mr. Littlefield's record, not to enter the Maine campaign would have laid us open to the charge of cowardice, especially as there had been a disposition in many quarters to consider our labor campaign as a 'bluff,' and our promise in the Bill of Grievances, to appeal to the hearts and consciences of the people, merely as an empty phrase."

Even then, without knowing the result of our labors in the second district of Maine, I remarked to the gentleman that it must be apparent to the whole country that Labor is in deadly earnest in its efforts to secure its rights and redress its grievances by defeating those who are hostile or indifferent and electing those who will safeguard not only the rights of the workers but the interests of the whole people."

In addition, that so far as I was concerned, I was never yet known to tackle an "easy" proposition.

He replied: "If you succeed in defeating Littlefield you have secured for Labor a power which you yourself can not realize. If you have reduced his majority to 2,000 or less you have gained a moral victory that will have a tremendous influence in the coming elections and in the affairs of the people of the country."

He added, "On the other hand, if Littlefield has held his own or increased his

vote you and your cause have received a black eye from which you will never recover."

My answer was, "You are mistaken. It may be true that I personally shall have received a black eye, but it will be no black eye to the cause of Labor, for that is a living issue. It is not a question of today only. The movement of Labor is for all time. It can and will recover from any temporary defeat faster than you can have any conception. It even gains strength from every contest. Further, I am confident that either Mr. Littlefield is defeated or he will win only by a very narrow margin."

The election has come and gone and the figures show how true was my estimate, but they tell only part of the tale.

So many inquiries have been made as to the facts in this campaign and these same facts have been so grossly garbled and misrepresented by the "Interests" and its subsidized press that a recital of the main features of this, the Littlefield campaign, will be of present interest and future value.

It is my regret that the pressure of work in connection with the Congressional campaign now being waged all over the country makes it impossible for me to spare the time for more than a brief outline of the happenings of this most remarkable campaign.

The word "remarkable" is used advisedly, for there are stronger words which would truthfully apply to the tactics resorted to by the "Interests" when my associates and myself respond to the call of our members of organized labor and of many citizens in that district went to Maine and exercised our right of citizenship, aiding in the awakening of Mr. Littlefield's constituents to a perception of the manner in which their liberties are menaced by the "Interests" whose plaint tool is Mr. Littlefield.

WAS INVITED TO MAINE.

The officers of the Maine state branch of the American Federation of Labor and other active members in the labor movement of that state had repeatedly urged me to come to the convention, held in June, this year, and speak to the representatives of Labor. I accepted and addressed the officers, delegates, and visitors in attendance. Representatives of the newspapers were also present. My

speech was mainly devoted to trade union subjects. I necessarily referred to the hostile attitude of the Maine representatives in Congress and mentioned the name of Mr. Littlefield among others and the inimical course they pursued, not only toward Labor, but the people generally. It aroused the deepest interest. The representative of the *Lewiston Journal*, the Republican organ, was present, it being one of the greatest opponents to Mr. Littlefield's re-nomination and election. He urged me to state fully all I knew of Mr. Littlefield's course.

The *Lewiston Journal* later changed its attitude and supported Mr. Littlefield, but before that change it published the following sketch of him:

A circuitous, capricious, spectacular statesman is finally described in the biography of the gentleman whose strange career we are debating. He is without Republican influence in Congress but his entertainments are enjoyed by the galleries. He converts nobody. If today his arguments are intended to convert a hearer to trust-busting, tomorrow his arguments are shaped to re-convert him to trust-building. In his earlier career in Congress and during a recess he appeared in Lewiston as a staunch champion of competition in telephony. In due season the color of the chameleon is changed for as hitherto noted he defended the betrayal of the solemn pledge that there should be telephone competition for local services granted on those express terms by the city government of Lewiston. Accordingly from whatever point of view this leader of the Littlefield-McCall-Foraker party is studied, a compeller of whirlwinds and fixer-up of politics is described. He has appeared as one of the gentlemen handling the gates of hell at Bangor. He is a fine expert in the lingo of the limbo of sulphur.

The labor men congratulated me and urged me to repeat at the mass meeting arranged for the evening at the City Hall my critical review of Mr. Littlefield's course in Congress, and also that of Maine's other Congressional representatives. Of course, I readily complied. The evening meeting was a remarkably large gathering; the greatest enthusiasm prevailed. I had struck a popular chord. I told the simple, unvarnished truth in regard to Mr. Littlefield and his colleagues. At the conclusion of the meeting the people arose and cheered; many came forward to meet me and press my hand and urge me to come back to Maine during the forthcoming campaign to oppose the re-election of Mr. Littlefield and others.

Labor's Representation Committee (selected by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor), Vice-President James O'Connell, Secretary Frank Morrison, and myself, determined that I should go to the second district of Maine and to ask a number of Labor's

representatives to co-operate with me.

Owing to pressure of work in various directions it was impossible to open my campaign before August 18—even then I did not spend the whole time before election in the state. Though the merest outline is herewith presented of the stirring doings in the second district of Maine, yet it is a truthful and accurate account. The wealth of unsavory detail which might be cited among the tactics of the opposition would only serve to accentuate the conclusions, which must be forced upon every wage-earner and every good citizen, as to the necessity of vigorous measures, if the rights of the common people are to be preserved.

BIG MEETINGS THE RULE IN LABOR'S CAMPAIGN.

The first meeting of our Labor campaign was held in the city hall of Lewiston, August 18th. It was preceded by the largest parade ever held in that city. The hall was packed to its fullest seating and standing capacity, the stairs even being jammed. There were fully 2,500 people present. It being the opening address and the keynote of our campaign against Mr. Littlefield, my speech was necessarily long, lasting two and a half hours. It was the hottest night of the summer, the temperature in the hall being 110 degrees. It was real heroism on the part of the audience to attend a meeting upon such a night, but it demonstrated the keen interest which had been aroused, particularly when it is known that large meetings in Maine are the exception rather than the rule. I shall not burden this article with the Lewiston speech, extracts of which may be found elsewhere in this issue.

I later delivered addresses in Rumford Falls, Livermore Falls, Bath, Waldoboro, Rockland, Vinalhaven, North Jay, Lisbon Falls and Richmond. Every one of these meetings was crowded, and it was necessary to address many overflow meetings. At Rumford Falls, many men employed on the night-shift in the paper mills were unable to attend our evening meeting, so another was held at 8 o'clock the following morning.

Apart from my own efforts, able and convincing speeches were delivered at various points by Messrs. Reid, Hamilton, Ames, Lovely, Golden, Flood, DeNedrey, Byrnes, D'Allesandro, Tazelaar, Cowper, Conway, and Frazier. Addresses were also delivered in union meetings and at social gatherings; the appeal being made to workmen not only to do their duty, but also to prevail upon their neighbors and friends to do likewise.

Incidentally it may not be amiss to say that the work of organizing new unions and strengthening existing ones was vigorously prosecuted and with great success. The seed of unionism has been more fully sown in Maine than before,

the fruition and benefits of which are already beginning to be in evidence.

OUR CAMPAIGN ON A HIGH PLANE.

One of the things upon which I insisted was that Labor's campaign should be conducted upon a high plane; that personalities should be avoided; that the principles for which Labor stands should be enunciated; that the campaign against Mr. Littlefield should be made upon his policy and his record. State or local matters were not interfered with. The complaints of Labor enumerated in our Bill of Grievances and the special matters in which Mr. Littlefield had demonstrated his hostility to labor and the interests of the people generally were constantly put to the front. The principles for which Labor stands, the laws and policies which it advocates, are those which in their fullest sense carry with them the welfare of the people generally, hence our campaign was not a partisan one in any sense, but of vital interest to all citizens.

On the other hand, the attitude of Mr. Littlefield and of many who spoke for him and the press which supported him was that it was a piece of effrontery for Labor to enter into the campaign. The exercise of our right to appeal to our fellow citizens to aid us in the redress of our wrongs and theirs and the attainment of our rights and theirs was viciously attacked, ridiculed, and misrepresented.

The fact that Mr. Cannon, of Illinois, Mr. Taft, of Ohio, Mr. Lodge, of Massachusetts, Mr. Beveridge, of Indiana, Mr. Watson of Indiana, Mr. Hamilton, of Michigan, and other prominent Republicans entered Maine to advocate the reelection of Mr. Littlefield seemingly did not occur to Labor's opponents as being a matter of equal criticism, if cause for criticism there be, in the fact of taking part in a campaign where one is not a resident. How about the spellbinders so widely advertised?

VILE, PERSONAL ABUSE BY MR. LITTLEFIELD.

How angry Mr. Littlefield became during the course of the campaign was shown when in one meeting he indulged in the following epithets toward me: "Gompers is a liar, a coward, a highwayman and a Jesse James," and then referred to my personal appearance as if I were entering a beauty contest, and wound up by declaring that I ought to be hanged. He stooped to such demagogism as to assert that Labor sought to license and legalize murder and conspiracy to murder.

It is safe to say that the worst plug-ugly of the old-time Bowery politician type never indulged in greater vituperation than did the Hon. Charles E. Littlefield in his mad frenzy to stem the tide of justly deserved opposition which La-

bor had aroused among the people of his district against him. In his speech at Lewiston he used language which caused the ladies present to blush and hang their heads in shame; he repeated this language at several points until his own partisans warned him that by such methods he was disgusting his hearers and by his malignant attacks upon me was driving voters against him; in fact, that his attempts at defense were adding to the hurt accomplished by my speeches against him. He desisted only when "heckled" by people in the meetings, who questioned his assertions and openly gave him the lie. Mr. Littlefield's meetings were known to be "frosts," but this did not prevent the newspapers from publishing that they were largely attended.

THEN CAME SPEAKER CANNON.

And then came Speaker Cannon, whose meetings were fairly large. He appealed for "regularity" and used all the old-time phrases. Although he at first spoke of our cause and myself respectfully, he soon lapsed into the old-time "Joe" Cannon on the stump and indulged in miserable abuse. Except for his appeal to "stand pat" and for "regularity" "Uncle Joe's" meetings were without interest and fell flat. He totally misrepresented the aims and purposes of Labor in his speeches. He carefully avoided delivering an address at Bath because he hadn't the courage of his convictions to face the people there. It may not be amiss to record that before I left Washington my understanding was that I should speak at Bath on Wednesday evening, August 22d. When I arrived at Lewiston I found that the arrangement had been changed; that Bath was to be omitted and Richmond substituted. I immediately redeclared that I would speak at Bath under all circumstances; that I would beard the lion in his den if there was any "bearding" to be done. The fact that Labor opposed the ship subsidy bill could not prevent my talking in the city in which the shipping interests are largely centered. I wished to inform the people of Maine, the shipping interests included, that Labor particularly objected to the conscription provision in the ship subsidy bill. I declared that if our opponents had hired all the halls at Bath I would speak in the open air from a truck or a barrel, and I sent two of Labor's representatives to arrange for a meeting.

When I reached Bath all sorts of rumors reached me; one that I would not be permitted to speak, another that I was in danger of personal assault. Of course, I paid no attention to such rumors. Mr. Littlefield's henchmen hired the city band and arranged and largely advertised a free open-air concert at the park for that evening. The women and children of Bath attended the concert, the men came to my meeting. As for the meeting, it

was the largest and most enthusiastic ever held in that city and the vote of Bath, which Mr. Littlefield lost, proved it.

HOW SECRETARY TAFT "HELPED."

Then came Secretary of War, Taft, who delivered a speech in Bath. Notwithstanding he had a large meeting and was respectfully listened to, the vote of Bath was his answer.

Senator Lodge with his profundity, Senator Beveridge with his magnificent eloquence, Congressmen Hamilton of Michigan and Watson of Indiana also made speeches; representatives of the Navy Department gave out interviews, and last, but not least, President Roosevelt sent a special message stating that the defeat of Mr. Littlefield would be regarded as "a public calamity." This Mr. Littlefield who, with six others, voted against every measure (the railroad rate bill included) earnestly and strenuously urged by the President.

As the *Washington Times* said: "The most spectacular and significant contest in any single district in the country has been made such because of the determined purpose to cheat Labor of its revenge against one who has been its consistent enemy." It was admitted that this galaxy of official stars would not have illuminated the second district of Maine had Labor's representatives ignored Mr. Littlefield's hostile record.

No wonder that "Uncle Joe" Cannon, Speaker of the House of Representatives, should try to elect Mr. Littlefield, since Speaker Cannon so constituted the committees of the House that the wrongs of Labor might be continued and the rights of the people denied, and Mr. Littlefield was one of his capable lieutenants in carrying out that policy.

As for the affinity of Secretary of War, Taft, with Mr. Littlefield and solicitude for his re-election, I need but refer to the fact that when Mr. Taft was judge of the federal court he issued one of the earliest injunctions against which Labor so justly complains. Mr. Littlefield, as a member of the Judiciary Committee in Congress, always used his position to prevent any remedy of the injunction evil and abuse. Whatever other merit Secretary Taft's speech may have had, his misrepresentation of Labor's position on the question of injunctions could only have been willful. It was an attempt as a member of the Cabinet to justify the further invasion of constitutional rights of which he was guilty as a judge.

"UNCLE JOE" FAILS TO REPLY.

In Rumford Falls, where "Uncle Joe" spoke, he was questioned by several in the audience when he boasted of existing conditions of Labor. A partisan paper reports a colloquy somewhat as follows:

"Citizen: Mr. Cannon, how is it that

the trusts sell their goods cheaper in Europe than they do here?

Mr. Cannon: What is your name?

Citizen: Never mind my name. That doesn't matter. Answer my question.

Mr. Cannon: My name is Joe Cannon. What's yours?

Citizen: I say again that doesn't matter. Answer my question.

Mr. Cannon: Do you work? Do you earn an honest living?

Citizen: Yes; I work for the paper company up here, 13 hours a day for 90 cents.

Mr. Cannon: Come out to Illinois and you can find a better job."

From various parts of the audience questions were asked, which "Uncle Joe" failed to answer, but he became so abusive of the representatives of Labor that the chairman interfered and refused to allow further questioning. Not only Mr. Cannon, but Mr. Littlefield found citizens in many places darting questions at them, which they (Mr. Littlefield and Mr. Cannon) were either incapable of answering or unwilling to do so.

In one place there were but seven who constituted the entire audience which Mr. Littlefield was to address. At that meeting was a veteran of the civil war who, Mr. Littlefield was informed in advance, was against him. Mr. Littlefield made a few remarks to the gathering and then spent over an hour in an effort to convert the veteran, who answered Mr. Littlefield's attack upon my character and that for which I stand substantially as follows:

"Mr. Littlefield, I have never met Mr. Gompers, but neither you nor anyone else can convince me that he is anything but an honest and sincere man. You are against the interests of the people. You may not find many who will tell you so to your face, but I can not and will not vote for you, and I have been a Republican all my life."

One of the devices of the Littlefield campaign was to try to divert my attention from Mr. Littlefield to side issues. One, a "Col." Plummer, attorney for the marine branch of the Parry-Post organization, challenged me to debate and asked that I divide my time with him at my meetings. Of course, I paid no attention to him other than when I came to his home city, Bath, where I was told in a most impressive manner by one whom I can not now recollect that "Col." Plummer had gone out of the city. The statement that he had left the city was published in the afternoon papers, and he was seen to conspicuously walk up the main street of Bath with a grip in his hand and board a train. This was intended to impress upon my mind that he had left the city. He evidently believed that under that impression I would say of him that which I would not dare to say if he were present.

That evening I had been speaking

about 45 minutes and occasionally made some reference to "Col." Plummer, all of which called forth great response from the audience. When I referred to Mr. Littlefield's suborning two workmen to commit perjury and said that "Col." Plummer aided and abetted, the statement was received with a great demonstration of approval. One of the audience, standing on the side of the hall, called out to me, "men their names." I answered that I did not care to heap further ignominy upon the two workmen who had been made the dupes and victims of Mr. Littlefield's and "Col." Plummer's contemptible conduct. This answer, to my utter astonishment, called forth the greatest demonstration of approval. Mr. Collis Lovely, one of my associates, was on the platform. During the applause, he came and whispered in my ear that the man who interrupted me was "Col." Plummer. Then I understood the demonstration and sailed into "Col." Plummer to the delight and satisfaction to every one, except, perhaps, the gallant colonel. Of course, he abused me in the press later, but no one paid any attention to him.

ATTEMPTS TO MISLEAD LABOR.

Pretending to pose as a friend to Labor, Mr. Littlefield sometimes declared that he was not opposed to labor organizations, and went so far as to secure on his ticket the nomination of a union man as a representative to the Maine legislature. It may be interesting to note that this candidate was not elected.

Yes, in his desire to be a "friend to labor" he even organized a "labor party," consisting of "Col." Mulhall and Charles E. Harriman. Anyone caring to know of "Col." Mulhall might write to the Baltimore Federation of Labor, to President Calvert of the Philadelphia Typographical Union, or to former Senator McComas of Maryland, and there are others too numerous to mention who could give information. From some of those the inquirer may learn of matters which we would not care to publish here, but from President Calvert can be obtained the information that "Col." Mulhall, during the printers' strike for the eight hour day, acted as an agent to secure strike-breakers in Philadelphia for New York, and in New York strike-breakers for Philadelphia. As for Charles E. Harriman, he wrote to me last March that Charles E. Littlefield was an enemy to labor, that he (Littlefield) went to Augusta, Me., to prevent the passage of the Eight Hour Law for laborers in government employ, that he (Harriman) was going to fight Littlefield, and that he could see "his finish," that he could and would be defeated for re-election to Congress.

Littlefield's "labor party," consisting of Mulhall and Harriman, had Harriman nominated for a member of the legisla-

ture and in the entire district he received the magnificent number of 12 votes.

One of the favorite species of attack on me was to charge that I was neither a citizen nor a voter. Prejudices of all sorts were appealed to in order to destroy confidence in the cause I represented. My answer to such attacks was, substantially, that; in 1872, just after I had attained my majority, I cast my first vote for General Ulysses S. Grant for President; that John Sherman, when Secretary of the Treasury, tendered me an appointment as statistician in the Treasury Department; that the Bureau of Labor Statistics of New York offered me a position in that bureau; that the Republican party of my district in New York City nominated me for Senator to the New York State Legislature; that a wing of the Democratic party also nominated me for Senator at the same election, both of these nominations being tantamount to an election, and I declined. The Republican party of my district the next year sent a committee to me, offering me the nomination for Congress, saying that they would surely nominate me if I would accept, but that they did not wish to be placed in the position they had been the year before when they nominated me and I had declined. Governor Hill of New York tendered me the appointment of Commissioner of the Board of Mediation, Conciliation, and Arbitration. President McKinley offered me an appointment upon the Industrial Commission and requested others to wait upon me and urge me to accept it. I declined all these nominations and offers of appointment. They were simply referred to, not in any spirit of vanity, but to ask Mr. Littlefield and his henchmen whether all these things could have been possibly tendered to me if I were neither a citizen nor a voter.

The "honest" and hard working man Littlefield declared that "that man Gompers never did an honest day's work in his whole life and misrepresents the interests of the working people for his own personal aggrandizement." Of course, I had to meet this charge particularly before a mixed audience. I called attention to the fact that I had been put to work in a factory when I was little more than 10 years of age. Worked at my trade for more than 26 years, or up to 1886, when the American Federation of Labor called me from the bench and made me president, upon a salary of \$1,000 a year, requiring me to give my "entire time" to the labor movement. I asked where Mr. Littlefield and his henchmen believed officers of the labor movement came from, whether he supposed that they were graduates from colleges or universities. I informed them an officer in the labor movement must be a wage-earner, and if there were any graduation, it was from the factory and workshop, mill or mine—the cruel university of "hard-knocks."

One of the things that contributed much to Mr. Littlefield's discomfiture was that at his Lewiston meeting, at which meeting he was to reply to the charges which I made against him, he had been speaking for 15 minutes, discussing several things, and then was about to "land" on me. At the first mention of my name, a cheer went up from all sides of the hall. This made Mr. Littlefield positively angry and he lost his head, and then when he "sailed in" to me, fully 300 people in the audience at once left the hall. Then Mr. Littlefield was beside himself, and indulged in such vituperative and abusive billingsgate such as is seldom heard upon the platform.

That the trusts and corporate interests were enlisted in this campaign to prevent Mr. Littlefield's defeat is evidenced by the hysteria of the hostile press throughout the country. That they recognized him as their pliant tool no one questions, even now that the election is over.

The commercial, railroad, and shipping trusts poured immense sums of money into the campaign and the methods used to "get" the nomination were amply employed to secure Mr. Littlefield's election at any cost.

LITTLEFIELD'S NOMINATION SECURED BY CORRUPT METHODS.

It is common knowledge in the second district of Maine that Mr. Littlefield's "influence" secured by corrupt methods his nomination for Congress over his opponent, Mr. Swazee, and that the railroads and corporate interests furnished the means.

The Parry-Post-Grape-Nuts-Manufacturers'-Association and so-called Citizens' Alliance had their henchmen in the field. A Mr. York was much in evidence, even though his work was of the dark-lantern order.

A wholesale wine and whisky house of New York sent out letters to the grocery men and the illicit whisky dealers in prohibition Main warning them against the "dangers" of Mr. Littlefield's defeat and the "invasion" of the "demagogues" of labor.

A trust representative of Boston sent out a "confidential" letter urging the "Interests" to stand together regardless of party against "that man Gompers."

TRUSTS AND CORPORATIONS FOR LITTLEFIELD.

Every species of trust influence, of corporate wealth methods ever employed in the most despicable and corrupt campaign in history was duplicated if not improved upon in the effort to prevent the defeat of Mr. Littlefield. It is to the credit and honor of the people there that they aided in administering a terrible rebuke to Mr. Littlefield and all he stood for.

SOCIALISTS FOR LITTLEFIELD.

In addition to the concentrated effort made by all these forces and influences just referred to was the bitter antagonism of the Socialists party. That party had some of its best known shouters at meetings. It printed immense numbers of leaflets and pamphlets, and a few days before the election the party organ, *The Worker*, published in New York City, made its appearance in every section of the second district of Maine (under an assumed date line of Portland), containing a vicious attack upon Labor's campaign against Mr. Littlefield, against its president and those associated with him in the effort to rebuke the wage-earners' conspicuous antagonist, Mr. Littlefield. Authentic information was communicated to me that 24,000 copies of the Socialist paper, *The Worker*, were distributed free in the Second Congressional District, and the further fact that for these, as well as for the entire campaign of the Socialists in this district, the funds were furnished by Littlefield's advocates and henchmen, the trusts, the corporations, and the railroads. Whenever any of Mr. Littlefield's henchmen could engage in conversation, workmen who were known to be opposed to him, they invariably urged them to vote for the Socialist candidates. What a combination "in the interest of Labor."

Another interesting feature of the campaign is the fact that, despite Mr. Littlefield's well-known advocacy of prohibition, in the headquarters of every local body which advocated his election free liquor was on tap and presented to any one who cared to have it, and forced on those who would not otherwise want it.

LABOR'S POSITION IN THE CAMPAIGN.

In order that Labor's position in entering the campaign to defeat Mr. Littlefield may be understood, it is necessary to recall that when Labor presented its Bill of Grievances to President Roosevelt, President *pro tempore* of the Senate, Mr. Frye, and Speaker Cannon of the House of Representatives, that document called attention to the serious acts of commission and omission of the party in power against the interests of Labor and the people generally. Of all the members of Congress no one stood more conspicuous as an antagonist to the interests of Labor and the people than Charles E. Littlefield, of Maine. Not only his speeches in Congress and elsewhere, but his conduct as a member of the Judiciary Committee and the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, and his manner in personal conferences demonstrated beyond question that by voice, pen, and vote he stood among the foremost as the exponent and defender of predatory wealth, an advocate not only of the trusts, corporations, and monopolies, but even of

the worst features in connection with them.

Whenever a representative of the corporate interests appeared before a committee of which Mr. Littlefield was a member, he was always affable and apologetic, rendering such assistance as would help such an agent over difficult places. On the other hand, if a representative of the common people or of Labor appeared, Mr. Littlefield was domineering, abusive, insulting. He always played the role of the subservient tool of corporate wealth and vested interest. He was the haughty, browbeating autocrat to those who dared speak for the common people upon any matter contrary to the interests he represented. Labor was made to feel that it could expect neither courtesy, consideration, nor justice from Mr. Littlefield.

In Mr. Littlefield's desperate effort to discredit Labor, he entered into a scheme with those having special interests, by which, on two, different occasions, he suborned a few men to appear before his committees, these men bearing forged credentials purported to represent unions. These few poor dupes, with the dollars of the "Interests" in their pockets, were taken to Mr. Littlefield's bosom and he sought to make it appear that they and not the chosen representatives of Labor were voicing the sentiments and interests of the toilers.

His willful and malicious perversion of the merits of Labor's bill to correct the injunction abuse, his championing of the bill for the re-enslavement of the seamen, his advocacy of the conscription of seamen in the ship subsidy bill as a condition to their employment upon privately-owned vessels, his failure to say a word for the bill prohibiting the employment of railroad men for more than 16 hours in a day, his failure to aid in the slightest the bill that would prevent the destruction of life and property by the wholesale towing of barges (though the correction of this evil would encourage the shipbuilding industry), his whole course and conduct as a Congressman, in more ways than can be here enumerated, aroused such a feeling of indignation that labor determined to administer to him that stinging rebuke which had been declared to all men or parties who were either indifferent, negligent, or hostile. Though not defeated, the rebuke to Mr. Littlefield is none the less a keen one, and it has been administered by his own constituents.

ORGANIZATION OF LABOR'S CAMPAIGN.

Having been directed to make the fight against Mr. Littlefield and authorized to ask the aid of some of Labor's active men, I secured the co-operation of Stewart Reid, International Association of Machinists; M. Grant Hamilton, Interna-

tional Typographical Union; Walter Ames, International Association of Machinists; Collis Lovely, Boot and Shoe Workers' International Union; John Golden, United Textile Workers of America; Emmett Flood, Brotherhood of Teamsters; Samuel DeNedrey, Central Labor Union, Washington, D. C.; Philip Byrnes, Boot and Shoe Workers of Maine; Dominick D'Allesandro, Rock Drillers' and Excavators' Union; J. D. Cowper, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners; John Conway, Retail Clerks' International Association; J. Tazelaar, Painters, Paperhangers and Decorators of America; Wm. H. Frazier, Seamen's Union of America; H. R. Frost, of Lewiston; W. H. Roberts, of Vinalhaven, and P. H. Byrne, of Rockland.

Mr. Reid made preliminary arrangements for meetings; Mr. Hamilton was established at headquarters at Rockland.

Too much praise can not be given to the workmen of Maine for the earnest and enthusiastic manner in which they helped to conduct the fight against Mr. Littlefield and other opponents of Labor. Especial appreciation of their loyalty is felt on account of the great temptations which were held out to them to become traitors or even remain lukewarm in their support of the Labor campaign.

OPPOSITION'S FUTILE ATTEMPTS TO CREATE DISCORD.

From the first our opponents endeavored to throw an apple of discord into Labor's ranks by pretending to create rivalry as to who was Labor's campaign manager in the district, but this proved abortive, as did also the publication of a dispatch in the newspapers that Vice-President James Duncan was hostile to the effort to defeat Mr. Littlefield. Mr. Duncan gave that publication its quietus by an emphatic letter in which he clearly showed that he was in entire accord with the campaign; that his own experience demonstrated Mr. Littlefield's hostility to the rights and cause of Labor. At our labor meetings where bands furnished music, they voluntarily played "My Country, 'Tis of Thee," when the chairman introduced me to the audience. When that was done I asked the audience to rise, and they sang lustily the national anthem.

LABOR MEN FORCED TO SPEAK IN OPEN AIR.

That Mr. Littlefield had funds galore was known to every one. The means to which they were employed were, of course not so well known. One of his plans was to hire all the available halls in the small towns so as to prevent us holding meetings indoors. Several of my associates in the campaign were compelled to speak in the open air even when Mr. Littlefield's meetings were not in progress and the local halls were idle. The

halls in Lisbon Falls were hired by Mr. Littlefield's agents for the evening when I was to make a speech there. The indignation, however, among the citizens was so great and manifested so emphatically, that Mr. Littlefield's managers were compelled to surrender the hall so that Labor's representatives could hire it. This enforced compliance was then published as an act of courtesy toward me. As a matter of fact Mr. Littlefield was evidently convinced that his "freeze-out" policy if persisted in would create even greater indignation, not only in the town but in the entire district.

OUR PERSONAL CANVASS OF VOTERS.

One of our plans which excited great uneasiness among the opposition was the quiet personal talks which the wage-workers held with all whom they could reach. This feature of the work was limited by the fact that we entered upon the campaign less than four weeks before election, and the workmen having to labor all day or all night, as the case might be, had very little time to devote to this work. This quiet volunteer work was in conspicuous contrast to the noisy falsehoods and violent denunciation of the opposition.

Of course, it is impossible to recount fully every detail of the campaign. What is told here is a mere outline, but will give a fair conception of the manner in which it was conducted by the representatives of Labor, as well as by our opponents.

Labor did not undertake to defeat Mr. Littlefield because he was a Republican, nor because his conspicuous opponent was a Democrat. It made a clean fight against Mr. Littlefield because of his bitter, relentless antagonism to the best interests of the wage-earners, as well as the common people of our country.

Of course, Mr. Littlefield and Labor's other opponents, in the newspapers and elsewhere, undertook to belittle our effort as soon as the result was known, and to assert that the awful slashing of his vote (so great that he barely slipped in) was due to other causes than Labor's effort. This was not surprising. Yes, Mr. Littlefield goes so far as to say that Labor's opposition *helped* him. He might say, in the language of Napoleon, at the end of a great battle, "Another such victory and I am undone."

It is not my disposition to claim all credit for Labor. Labor gladly shares

with the people of the second district of Maine the honor in administering for the workers and the people generally a stinging rebuke to this adroit politician whose very ability is a public danger.

In explaining the result of the slashing of Mr. Littlefield's vote, he, as well as the anti-labor papers, cited the fact that the *Lewiston Journal* changed from opposition to supporting him, and claimed that I was the cause of this; hence this was one of the ways in which I "helped" him. The fact is that the *Lewiston Journal* changed its attitude sometime before I entered the campaign and declared as its reason that while it did not care for Mr. Littlefield, it favored him in preference to his opponent.

Another claim of our opponents is that the entire Republican vote in the state was reduced, and that, therefore, it did not especially show itself in Mr. Littlefield's district. The answer is to be found in this: The largest total vote in the history of Maine was cast in this election. In Mr. Littlefield's district there is less organized labor than in any other district in that state, yet his plurality was the lowest of any Congressional candidate.

In the other districts organized labor and the people generally followed out the policy as promulgated in Labor's political program, even though there was no direct campaign made by my associates and myself.

There is another side-light in this campaign which may be told later and when told will convey to the working people and other citizens a still clearer knowledge of the deception practiced by one who poses as a friend to Labor.

As for the effect on Labor's general campaign, there is every reason to feel that a moral victory was gained in Mr. Littlefield's district. Why it fell short of a material victory has been shown in this recital of conditions and methods pursued by the opposition. But even had Mr. Littlefield been elected by an increased majority the fight would have gone on with unabated vigor in every Congressional district in the country where Labor has found its present Congressional representative indifferent, hostile, or negligent.

The campaign in Maine has shown how great are the forces aligned against the interests of the people, and it has also shown that Labor needs only to lead the way and all good citizens aid in the noble and patriotic work.

SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION FOR CABLE SPLICERS.

F. R. SWAYZE, Principal,
Topeka, Kans.

Dear Sir:

I am years of age. I reside at I hereby apply for admission to your school of instruction for cable Splicers.

I agree to enter said school and obey all rules and regulations thereof. I agree to work as an apprentice therein for the full term of four weeks, you to advance me the sum of \$1.50 per day for every day I work in said school during said term.

Provided you secure me a position as cable splicer at the rate of two and one-half dollars (\$2.50) per day within thirty (30) days from end of my school term, I agree to reimburse you for all money so advanced me, and to direct my employer to deduct from my salary and pay you fifty cents (\$0.50) per day until total

advances are paid.

I further agree to pay a tuition fee of \$5.00 for the entire school term when my application is accepted.

Dated this day of,
A. D. 190....

Applicant.

This application accepted and approved this day of, A. D. 1906.

Principal.

Name of Father

Address

Reference

Address

Reference

Address

Reference

Address

METAL TRADES CONVENTION.

Minutes of Meeting Held at Chicago, September 10-15, 1906.

Delegates called to order September 10, 10:30 A. M., by C. Peterson, president M. T. Council No. 9, who stated that the convention had been called at the instigation of the Metal Trades Council No. 9.

Bro. Peterson also delivered the address of welcome, calling the attention of the delegates to the enormity of the work they were about to undertake, also expressing the hope that the delegates would be broad minded and liberal in their opinions, and in conclusion made a strong appeal that the delegates exclude all animosity of opinion and to concert their efforts in one direction so as to agree on some one proposition that would be of lasting benefit to their constituency.

The following committee on credentials was appointed:

J. E. Senne, Thos. J. Knight, A. Dyer and A. Swangren.

Committee reports favorable on the following credentials:

Bro. E. Leberman, representing No. 51, Boilermakers and Iron Ship Builders; Metal Trades Council No. 1, of St. Louis, Mo.; International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths and Helpers Local No. 444; Patternmakers, of St. Louis, Mo.; Boilermakers and Iron Ship Builders Local No. 27; Coremakers' Union No. 426.

Bro. C. B. Meyers, International Vice President District 10 Metal Polishers, Buffers and Platers.

Bro. J. J. Mockler, representing International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths and Helpers.

Bro. Thos. Martin, representing Local No. 7, I. B. of Stationery Firemen.

Bro. C. Peterson, representing Metal Trades Council No. 9, of Chicago.

Bro. A. Dyer, representing Patternmakers' Association, of Chicago, Ill.

Bro. Robt. Nelson, representing Iron Molders' conference board, of Chicago.

Bro. J. J. Keppler, representing District No. 8, International Association of Machinists.

Bro. Adam Wilson, representing Local No. 3, International Union of Steam Engineers.

Bro. Jos. Trumble, representing Local No. 237, Iron Molders' Union, of Moline, Ill.

Bro. Chas. Cone, representing Local No. 251, International Association of Machinists.

Bro. F. W. Wilson, representing Locals Nos. 66, 248, 300, 301, 432, 437, 496, I. A. of M.

Bro. Samuel Headford, representing Local No. 19, International Union of Steam Engineers, Patternmakers' Association, of Ft. Wayne, Ind.; Local No. 222, International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths and Helpers; No. 70, International Association of Machinists; No. 62, Iron Molders' Union of N. A.

Bro. W. J. Pfeiffer, representing No. 161, International Association of Machinists.

Bro. Jos. Morton, representing Stationary Firemen.

On motion, report of committee be accepted and delegates seated.

Next order, committee reported that they were in doubt in regard to the credentials of Bro. E. Leberman from the Foundry Employees and the Amalgamated Sheet Metal Workers of St. Louis. On motion, action was postponed indefinitely.

Next order was the election of a chairman and secretary.

Bro. C. Peterson was nominated as chairman.

There being no further nominations, the secretary cast one ballot in favor of Bro. C. Peterson.

Nominations for secretary being opened, Bro. Chas. Cone being the only nominee was unanimously elected.

Bro. J. J. Keppler was called upon to express the aims and objects of the meeting. He entered into the history of the movement, explained the necessity of it and elaborated thoroughly on the details of what had been done and what was yet to be accomplished in order to bring the idea to its successful conclusion.

Bro. Jas. O'Connell, International President of the I. A. of M., who has been a practical worker in the movement from its inception, was called upon for a few remarks. He stated that as this meeting was called by the rank and file that he was here more in the light of a student than an advisor, but that he would be pleased to render any service that he could to the assembly. He also pointed out the necessity of going carefully and slow, as he thought all great things to be of material benefit must be gained by a slow, steady and persistent push.

The next delegate called on was Bro. Robt. Nelson, of the Iron Molders, who explained their position and assented his willingness to participate in anything that would be of material benefit to the majority.

Bro. C. B. Meyers talked at some length, showing the necessity of getting together on some common ground and of providing for some joint action of the various metal trades.

After several of the delegates had spoken the following committee was appointed on rules of order:

J. J. Keppler, I. A. of M., Chicago; A. Dyer, Patternmakers, Chicago; C. B. Meyers, Metal Polishers, Chicago; Jos. Trumble, Iron Molders, Moline, Ill.; E. Leberman, Metal Polishers, St. Louis, Mo.

Being the hour of 12 the convention adjourned until 2 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Delegates called to order by Chairman C. Peterson at 2 P. M.

Moved and seconded that we hear report of committee on rules.

Carried and committee reported as follows:

That the presiding officers of this convention shall be C. Peterson, chairman, and Chas. Cone, recording secretary.

The sessions of this convention shall be from 9 A. M. to 12 M. and from 2 P. M. to 5 P. M.

We further recommend the appointment of a committee on procedure to be subdivided as follows:

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE.

Duties are to draft a constitution that will not conflict with any of the national constitution, provide for referendum, basis of representation, joint agreement, action, eight hours and defense fund, officers, universal arbitration, future conventions and maintenance.

JOINT ACTION AND AGREEMENT COMMITTEE.

Duties are to draft a universal agreement and means for carrying same into effect, handling of strikes and provisions for arbitration and court proceedings.

EIGHT HOUR AND DEFENSE FUND COMMITTEE.

Duties are to determine the time for a universal eight-hour demand and best policy of building up defense fund.

COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION.

Duties are to determine what percentage vote is to carry any proposition.

DUTIES OF REFERENDUM.

Duties are to determine the best means of placing the proceedings on ballot before the rank and file and expense of same, also secure endorsement.

Hear reports of committees.

Chair to appoint a press committee.

All international officers, business agents and metal trades delegates shall be allowed the privilege of the floor and can be appointed on committees.

Moved and seconded the report be accepted and recommendations concurred in. Carried.

The chair appointed Bro. J. J. Keppler as chairman of committee on procedure, who took the chair and appointed the following committees:

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE.

E. Leberman, Metal Polishers; F. W. Wilson, Machinists; R. Nelson, Iron Molders; J. E. Senne, Machinists; Adam Wilson, Stationary Engineers.

JOINT ACTION AND AGREEMENT COMMITTEE.

C. B. Meyers, Metal Polishers; S. Headford, Patternmakers; J. J. Mockler, Blacksmiths and Helpers; T. J. Knight, Machinists.

EIGHT HOUR AND DEFENSE FUND COMMITTEE.

Jos. Trumble, Iron Molders; Thos. Martin, Stationary Firemen; Chas. Cone, Machinists; A. Swangren, Machinists.

REPRESENTATION AND REFERENDUM COMMITTEE.

A. Dyer, Patternmakers; W. J. Pfeiffer, Machinists; H. Seiling, Metal Polishers; J. Zbetovsky, Machinists.

Moved and seconded that the delegates

adjourn until 4:30 P. M. and allow the committee to go into session. Carried.

Delegates called to order 4:30 P. M. Chairman C. Peterson presiding.

Discussion between the various committees was carried on until 5 P. M., when adjournment was taken for the day.

MORNING SESSION.

Meeting called to order by Chairman C. Peterson at 10 A. M.

Bro. J. J. Keppler took the chair as chairman of the committee of the whole.

After further discussion a motion was made and duly seconded that the chairmen of all committees get together with the constitution committee and proceed with the work of framing a constitution.

Amended that the constitution committee confer with the chairmen of the other committees and report to the assembly at 3 P. M.

It being the hour of 12 the meeting adjourned until 3 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION, SEPTEMBER 11, 1906.

Meeting called to order 3 P. M. Bro. C. Peterson presiding.

Moved and seconded that we hear reports of the constitution committee. Carried.

Bro. J. E. Senne read a resolution, which was thoroughly discussed and amended to read as per attached resolution.

The resolution after being adopted seriatim was adopted as a whole and committee discharged.

The chair appointed the following as a press committee:

J. J. Keppler, J. E. Senne and C. Peterson.

Motion made and seconded that the organization committee of Metal Trades Council No. 9 be tendered a rising vote of thanks. Carried.

Motion made and seconded that the organization here represented be given until January 1, 1907, to submit the resolution and ballot here adopted for a referendum vote. Carried.

Chair further announced that a smoker and entertainment had been arranged for the evening at 175 West Madison street, and that the delegates were all invited to attend, whereupon the convention adjourned sine die.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT METAL TRADES CONFERENCE, CHICAGO, SEPTEMBER 10 TO 15, 1906.

Whereas, It has been fully demonstrated by experience that organization and unity of action among the unions and workers of the metal trades is important and essential in order to combat the growing encroachments of organized and consolidated capital, and as there are questions affecting the interests of the

workers of the metal trades which can not be dealt with in separate organizations of these trades, and the end can best be attained in a federation in which all the branches of the metal trades may prove allies to any particular one that may be oppressed, and that all may form a brotherhood for the defense and protection of the allied metal trades; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the representatives of the various metal trades, unions here represented, pledge ourselves to labor unitedly in behalf of the principles herein set forth, to perpetrate a metal trades federation, composed of the following national organizations: International Association of Machinists, Iron Molders' Union of N. A., Patternmakers' Association of N. A., International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths and Helpers, Boilermakers and Iron Ship Builders, Metal Polishers, Platers and Buffers, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, International Brotherhood of Stationary Fireman, International Union of Steam Engineers and such other trades as may be found eligible by the N. M. T. F. of N. A., on the basis of friendship and justice, to respect and obey the laws laid down for its guidance and government, and always labor for its success, knowing as we do that when we are united no reasonable demand we may make can be denied us; therefore be it

Resolved, That eligible organizations that have not taken a vote on the question of affiliation with the Metal Trades Federation be requested to initiate a referendum on said proposition through their Executive Board and in compliance with their constitution, also the following propositions:

1. Are you in favor of having your international organization affiliated with the N. M. T. F. of N. A.?

2. Are you in favor of presenting joint agreements and taking joint action thereon?

3. Are you in favor of the eight-hour day in the metal industry?

4. Are you in favor of creating a general defense fund? Be it further

Resolved, That the organization committee of Metal Trades Council No. 9 be hereby directed to render every assistance possible to the eligible organizations in carrying out this referendum; be it further

Resolved, That if the vote is favorable to formation of Metal Trades Federation that your organization at once notify the present President of the N. M. T. F. of N. A., Mr. Jas. O'Connell, 402 McGill Bldg., Washington, D. C., to call a meeting of said organizations for the express purpose of reorganizing the N. M. T. F. on the principles laid down in resolutions herein adopted at Metal Trades confer-

ence held at Chicago, Monday, September 10, 1906.

Signed:

C. Peterson, representing Metal Trades Council No. 9; E. Leberman, representing Boilermakers, Blacksmiths and Helpers, Patternmakers, Coremakers and Metal Trades Council No. 1, of St. Louis, Mo.; C. B. Meyers, International Vice President, District No. 10, of Metal Polishers; J. J. Mockler, representing International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths and Helpers; Thos. Martin, representing Stationary Firemen, of Chicago; A. Dyer, representing Patternmakers' League, of Chicago; Robt. Nelson, representing Iron Molders, of Chicago; J. J. Keppler, representing Machinists, of Chicago; Adam Wilson,

representing Stationary Engineers, of Chicago; Jos. Trumble, representing Iron Molders, of Moline, Ill.; Chas. Cone, representing Machinists, of Sheboygan, Wis.; F. W. Wilson, representing Machinists, of Milwaukee, Wis.; Sam'l Headford, representing Stationary Engineers, Boilermakers, Blacksmiths and Helpers, Machinists and Iron Molders, of Ft. Wayne, Ind.; W. J. Pfeiffer, representing Machinists, of Indianapolis, Ind.; James O'Connell, International President of Machinists, of Washington, D. C.; J. Morton, President Stationary Firemen, of Chicago; F. J. McNulty, Grand President of Electrical Workers; T. J. Knight, Secretary M. T. F., No. 92 La Salle street, room 39, Chicago.

THE TRADE UNION IS THE DISTRIBUTOR OF PROSPERITY.

"If I owned this canal, I'd take all these nasty gates out of it," said a little boy to his father, as the steamer on which they were sailing was passing through the locks of the Sault Ste. Marie Canal. To the child's mind the locks were nothing but vexatious obstacles in the boat's course. He did not know that without those "gates" the canal would be a shallow brook, absolutely worthless for purposes of navigation.

And so, whenever a strike occurs, there are always a number of people with grown-up bodies and baby minds, who cry out that trade unions interfere with business and general prosperity. Others who know better, but whose opinions are governed by some capitalistic interests, take up the cry, until to-day it is a very common belief that prosperity is endangered by labor organizations.

This assertion is not only untrue, but absurd, to those who are acquainted with the industrial history of America. If it had not been for trade unions workingmen might now be working for 50 cents a day, and business might be as dull and sluggish as it is in Spain, where the laborer buys a new suit once in five years and lives on rye and garlic.

The high rate of wages in this country, compared with Europe and Asia, is not accidental. It is not due to the greater benevolence on the part of American capitalists. It is not due to the fact that this is a new country; the Canadian province of Quebec is a new country, yet wages are lower there than in England. It is due to the *seventy-five-years' fight against low wages* made by organized labor.

This country was not a workingman's paradise when it was first settled. Every inch of progress for the laborer has had to be fought for. Whatever share of prosperity the average man has today

is owing to the sturdy independence and united efforts of those who believed in the "rights of labor."

When America was a British colony the workingman had no more rights than a horse. A law was passed in Massachusetts in 1633 enacting that all "master workmen" should be paid not more than two shillings (48 cents) a day, or 28 cents and board. This was the maximum rate. There was no law to prevent the employer from paying less.

It was only the best skilled mechanics who could hope for 48 cents a day. Other workingmen were to have their rate of wages *fixed by the constable*, and were to be paid from 20 to 36 cents a day and board themselves. Any employer who paid more than these fixed rates was fined, and so was any worker who demanded more. The wageworker who tried to raise the market price of his labor was regarded as an anarchist and a criminal and dragged before the nearest judge.

The worker of to-day has thus escaped one unendurable evil—his wages are not fixed by the police. If they were, then every trade union would have to be transformed into a "Parkhurst Society," wasting its efforts in the visionary endeavor to keep police captains honest, or arranging terms with "John Doe."

In colonial days Indians who worked in the fields got 36 cents a day, and women received from 6 to 8 cents a day and board.

The first workingman in America to get a dollar a day was John Marshall, of Braintree, Mass. He made this world-beating record from 1697 to 1711. It seems that Marshall was such an 'all-around man' that his services were greatly in demand. He was by turns a carpenter, lathe-maker, painter, brick-maker, etc. Among his own generation he was quite

famous, and he should certainly be remembered and honored for his cleverness and business ability. Some time, let us hope, we shall have a niche in a new "Hall of Fame" for John Marshall, the first workingman in the world who compelled Capital to pay him a dollar a day.

After the War of Independence, work and wages remained the same. The Revolution did not mean two cents a day more to any worker in the country. As McMaster says: "In the general advance made by society in fifty years (1775 to 1825) the workingman had shared but little. Many old grievances no longer troubled him, but new ones, more numerous and galling than the old, were pressing him sorely. Wages had risen, but not in proportion to the cost of living."

In 1794 it was stated in Congress that a good workman in Vermont could get no more than \$4 a month and board, and had to buy his own clothes. In all the States at that time there were men working for \$3 a month and board.

The city of Washington was built by workers who got not more than 50 cents a day. The diggers, choppers, hod-carriers, etc., got \$70 a year, and worked, as all laborers did, from sunrise to sunset.

When this century began, wages in New York were 40 cents a day, and in Baltimore 36 cents. The average rate, all over the country, was \$65 a year, with board and perhaps lodging. Compositors got as much as \$8 a week, which was regarded as an enormous sum. This was partly due to the fact that only educated men could be employed, and partly because the compositors have always been the most persistent advocates of higher wages. It was their custom to have an annual strike or "turn-out" to get better terms from their employers.

It was common for farm-hands to get \$2 a week, upon which they had to support themselves, and often a family as well. In 1825 hundreds were glad to work for 25 cents and 37½ cents a day through the winter, and many an industrious man worked 14 hours a day for nothing more than his keep.

The wages that I have been quoting are what the worker was *supposed* to get—what his employer promised him. But it must be kept in mind that the workingman had no law to secure the payment of his wages until 1830. A rascally contractor could work a gang of men for a year and then refuse to pay them.

Wages were not paid weekly or monthly, but at long irregular intervals; and what was worst of all, they were very often paid in *bad money*. Anything was considered good enough to pay a workingman with, and so they were given counterfeit bills, notes of broken banks, depreciated money, etc.

It is not hard to imagine the bitter misery that invaded many a laborer's cottage in those days of "free labor," when after months of weary waiting for his wages, the poor, defrauded worker brought home to his half-fed family a check for \$25 on a broken bank. The romantic writers of "historical novels" always abstain very carefully from picturing such a scene.

What little money the working people had was made mostly of copper. Silver was hard to get, and gold was as rare as diamonds. In 1789 the copper money depreciated, because of the tricks of politicians or bankers; and for a while it took 64 pennies to make a shilling. In some States copper money was refused everywhere. As a result, there was the greatest distress among the working people. McMaster speaks of their "deplorable plight." Shops were closed and hundreds lingered for weeks on the verge of starvation. And all this was caused by a stoppage of pennies, such was the moneyless condition of the laboring class.

Food was by no means cheap in those days. Pork was 20 cents a pound, corn was 75 cents a bushel, wheat \$2.10 a bushel, bread 8 cents a loaf. As McMaster admits, "Nothing but perfect health, steady work, sobriety, the strictest economy, and the help of his wife could enable a married man to live."

Yet even then, as now, the blame for poverty was thrown upon the poor and not upon social conditions. We find, in the sermons and lectures of the time, the astounding assertion made that poverty was caused by "intemperance and ill-advised charity." No committee of manufacturers proposed to raise wages, and no conference of ministers or board of professors asked them to do so. Every four years the whole country was rocked with the excitement of an election, but no election meant an extra ten cents' worth of prosperity to the laboring man.

Big enterprises were being undertaken, such as the digging of the Erie Canal, the building of railroads and steamships, the enlarging of factories, etc., but all were for the sole benefit of the capitalist and financier. No matter how much the volume of business increased, wages remained low except where the trade unions forced them higher.

As late as 1835, the Baltimore weavers were working 12 hours a day for 65 cents. At Great Falls, N. H., in 1844, the factory girls labored from 5 a. m. until 7 p. m., with only 15 minutes for breakfast and 30 minutes for dinner. What they *earned* we do not know, but all they received was \$1.25 to \$2 a week.

In New York at this time seamstresses got from 75 cents to \$1.50 a week, and matchbox-makers got 5 cents a gross, or one cent for 30 boxes. "Smart" employers

sent agents on board of incoming steamships to hire immigrants to work for \$20 to \$30 a year and board. This was, of course, the low-water mark of wages, but shows what may be expected when capitalists are not restrained by fear of trade union retaliation.

Fancy pictures have been drawn of the universal prosperity of fifty years ago. Carey, the political economist, said in 1845: "In Massachusetts all have property and invest their surplus upon their own possessions. Every man lives in his own house, and works in the mill of which he is part owner." Lyell praised the factory system of Lowell, and said the workers appeared like "a set of ladies and gentlemen playing at factory for their own amusement." Charles Dickens visited America at the same time, and said that "a beggar upon the streets of Boston would create as much astonishment as an angel with a drawn sword."

If this latter observation be true, then angels' visits in those days were not "few and far between," as in 1843 no fewer than 50,000 people received relief from the city in New York alone, being one-seventh of the population. The exact number of paupers in Boston is not given, but relatively the amount of destitution was quite as great.

The prosperity of the Lowell mill-workers is another fallacy which is becoming historical and therefore sacred. It seems that a little paper called the "Lowell Offering" was published for several years by the factory girls, and it gave outsiders, and especially English visitors, an entirely wrong impression of our factory system.

The important truth about Lowell factories of that time is that *the average wages of the 8,000 workers was \$1.50 a week*. Many got as low as 55 cents, and would thus have to work nearly two weeks to pay for a subscription to their own paper. It is also difficult to see when they found time to write poems and essays, as they worked 13 hours a day, without an hour less on Saturday. A writer in the "Workingmen's Advocate," a labor paper published at that time, states that the "Lowell Offering" was an idea of the employers and was not supported by the factory workers.

A similarly deceptive paper was published at Exeter, N. H., and called "The Factory Girls' Garland." The factory girls who were supposed to edit it were not only being driven 13 hours a day, but were also compelled to attend church regularly under penalty of losing their jobs. Thus, unless they were afflicted with insomnia, they had no time to weave literary "Garlands."

It is no doubt true that the factory workers of that time were the best in the world, and quite capable of editing maga-

zines. But they were certainly not illustrations of the prosperity of non-union working people. In a young agricultural country, where money was scarce, and everyone was accustomed to hard work, the first factories were a welcome change no matter what they paid. The sons and daughters of nearby farmers were glad to work for a little pocket-money and had no idea of the market value of their labor. They lived at home and paid little or nothing for board. It was fun for the first few months and they did not discover until it was too late that this "pocket-money" was afterwards to be their only means of support.

Lowell was then, and is now, a heaven on earth for capitalists, and the other thing for wage-workers. Like New Bedford, Fall River, Manchester and Lawrence, it is simply a collection of slave-barracks called factories in which unhappy tens of thousands hustle and sweat for barely enough wages to pay their last week's debts.

Two years before Dickens' visit, many of the poor were frozen to death in the large cities. Bakers' shops were raided by the starving people. Horace Greeley said there were "30,000 human beings within the sound of the City Hall bell who could not find work;" and Chas. A. Dana declared that "the whole tendency of industry is perpetually to disgrace the laborer, to grind him down and reduce his wages."

In the face of such conditions, the two urgent reforms were to *reduce hours and to raise wages*. Paupers could not buy goods and make business boom. Moneyless families could not "go West." A great landless, homeless and often workless mob was growing up in every factory city, and the national problem of the time was to make it law-abiding, intelligent and prosperous part of the community.

To meet this necessity, trade unions were formed; and as they fought their way and became strong, business improved and was placed upon a more solid foundation. At first they had been for benevolent purposes only. It was illegal 100 years ago to combine for higher wages, and in 1785 the mechanics of New York were refused leave to form even a society for mutual benefit.

Gradually, as the Declaration of Independence came to be understood, the unions began to strike for better conditions. Again and again they struck, in spite of fines and imprisonment. In 1795 the Baltimore tailors demanded \$1.80 per job and got it. Seven years later the New York tailors struck for \$14 a month. They hired a band and marched up and down the streets. The ship-owners at once had the leader arrested and imprisoned until the strikers surrendered

and agreed to work for \$10 a month, as before.

About this time the pavers, who were working in Washington for the government, struck for 10 cents an hour, instead of 87 cents for an 11-hour day.

The Philadelphia shoemakers were an especially intelligent body of men, and they had forced wages up to \$11.50 per week in 1806. The employers then had a batch of them arrested. They were declared "guilty of a combination to raise wages," and fined \$8 each with costs.

These strikes, and others, though not always successful, encouraged the working people in all parts of the country. For the first time they realized the power of organization. By means of petitions, protests and strikes they cut down the hours of labor to 12 in many places and raised wages besides.

In 1836 they received a severe set-back, from which they did not recover for 15 years. A union of tailors in New York had struck for higher wages, and 21 of them were dragged before a judge named Edwards and fined a total of \$1,150. The Supreme Court of New York then sat on the case, or rather on the tailors, and decided that trade unions were unlawful. This decision, combined with a period of hard times, killed unionism for a time; and *at once wages fell and hours were increased to 13 and 15 a day.*

All those humble heroes who fought for the right to organize, and who suffered imprisonment and legalized robbery at the hands of the government, have been forgotten. I have searched through histories and biographies in vain for the name of any trade union leader prior to 1825. In every case they are lumped together as "shoemakers," "tailors," "carpenters," etc., as if they had no more right to individual names than so many cattle. The men of patriotic words have been remembered and the men of patriotic actions have been forgotten.

The first union of weavers in Fall River was organized by an Englishman and an Irishman. They were arrested for "conspiracy" and sent to jail for two years. The Englishman died in jail; but the Irishman served his term; and when he found himself blacklisted, he became a politician and was elected to Congress. The public opinion of the time allowed a man to go into politics and talk about the rights of Labor but it refused him permission to do anything to obtain those rights.

It is continually stated that strikes are nearly always failures, but the contrary is the truth. It is non-striking that fails. Carrol D. Wright's figures show that only about 40 per cent. of all strikes fail. The chances are nearly two to one in favor of the strikers.

In four years the carpenters have won

476 strikes out of 523, besides compromising 24. In their case a strike is a sure thing, as much as anything can be in a world of chances.

In Massachusetts, where there have been many strikes, wages average higher than in New Hampshire, where unions are few. In the eighteenth century, when only four strikes are recorded, wages were under 50 cents a day; while in the year 1886 alone there were 1,411 strikes, and wages averaged three times as much.

The fact is, that every strike succeeds, if it arises from a just cause. It creates public opinion in favor of the strikers and often helps to shape legislation. It was a lost strike that stirred up public sentiment in New Zealand so that the laboring classes captured the political power, and have held it ever since. It was a lost strike that elected a shoemaker Mayor of Haverhill and put three others in the Council.

No one can tell how many cut-downs are prevented by the fear of a strike. As long as the workmen submitted and turned the other cheek, it was the employer who did all the striking; but when Labor learned to hit back, Capital at once became less pugnacious.

The success of trade unions in raising wages may be shown by the following facts: In 1850 the average factory wages were \$247 a year; in 1890, \$446. Wages in cotton factories in 1830 were 44 cents a day; in 1873, \$1.49.

The bricklayers have one of the strongest unions in the world, with nearly \$40,000 in their treasury at the present time. These are the steps by which they climbed: In 1776 they got 50 cents for 14 hours; in 1850, \$1.75 for 12 hours; and in 1901, \$4.80 for 8 hours. From 4 cents an hour to 60 cents an hour! Their share of national prosperity has been multiplied fifteen times by organization.

It is easily noticeable that wages are highest where unions are strongest. For instance, in the building trades, where unions are strong, wages average \$2.86 a day; while in groceries and the lumber trade, where unions are few and weak, wages average \$1.65 and \$1.40.

It must not be thought that wages are yet as high as they should be. In view of the wonderful productivity of our American skilled workers, it is a moderate statement to say that the minimum wage should be \$5 for an 8-hour day. The attainment of this rate would do more to bring permanent prosperity than all the propositions ever thought of by politicians.

The capitalist is still charging the workers far too much for his services in directing and consolidating industry. Rent, interest and profits go to a very few people, and should be reduced; while wages go to the bulk of the nation, and

must be increased, if prosperity is to be national, and not private. That is the whole social problem in a nutshell.

In 1890, the 4,700,000 factory workers got \$2,283,000 for making goods that sold for \$9,372,000. It can thus be seen that the charges for capital and superintendence were too high. In proportion to the product, the wage-worker got 6 per cent less in 1890 than in 1850.

Labor is robbed by the dishonest device of watering stock, to the extent of millions a year. For instance, American railways cost in actual cash \$5,840,000; yet they are capitalized for \$38,480,000. The railroad capitalists make their employees and the public pay interest on \$32,000,000 which was never borrowed and never existed. What a hue and cry would be raised if the trade unions attempted to "water" Labor, and insisted on making the employer pay for six times as many workers as he had in his factory!

Political economists have pasted together many a pretty, tissue-paper theory of wages, but none of them have patterned after the facts. Ricardo's "wage-fund" was wholly imaginary; Walker's theory that production governs wages is nearer the truth, but still far from it; the "iron law" of Sassalle and Marx has less instances than exceptions, and is true only in a land of unorganized serfs; and Henry Georg's theory that wages depend upon access to land was true, perhaps, 100 years ago; but it is unintelligible today among the working people of the large cities. If it were true, then wages would be higher in Russia than in New York.

The real "law of wages" depends on the grade of the workers themselves. Workers get as much of their product as their combined, organized intelligence and courage deserve. An intelligent union man may produce \$6 worth a day, and get \$5 of it; while a submissive Chinese gold-miner may find a nugget every day and get \$2 a week for making his employer's fortune. Thus the "iron law" of wages can be hammered into shape on the anvil of unionism.

When the average worker is as intelligent in matters of self-interest as the average capitalist is today, he will get all the value of his product, less the cost of superintendence. The union may then hire the capitalist, instead of the capitalist hiring the union.

As against the foregoing record of trade unionism in raising wages, and thus distributing and promoting prosperity, let us look at the record of the banks during the same period. The banks are chosen because they are in every way capitalistic institutions, for which wageworkers are in no way responsible. We shall see what they have

done for the harmony and stability of commerce, and for the just distribution of wealth.

To begin with, it is plain that the banks have been the greatest disturbers of "confidence" in the business world. They have been either the creators of panics, or the agencies through which the panic-makers reached the general public. In this country and England there were twelve great panics during the 19th century—in 1810, '15, '25, '37, '47, '57, '66, '73, '84, '90, and '93.

So far as damage to business is concerned, a panic is to a strike what a dynamite gun is to a bow and arrow. A panic does not injure one employer or one trade, but the entire nation. It displaces the very foundations upon which commerce stands. It is like an earthquake which shakes down palace and cottage alike in one common wreck.

In 1814 all the State banks outside of New England either suspended specie payment or failed altogether. From 1816 to 1820 the country was nearly ruined by the top-heavy financiering of reckless bankers. So rascally were the tactics employed by the banks that in 1829, a convention of workmen called bankers "the greatest knaves, imposters and paupers of the age." It had been discovered that the bankers had promised to redeem \$35,000,000 of paper with \$4,000,000 of specie.

Nicholas Biddle, founder of the ill-famed U. S. Bank, cost this nation more during the thirties than all the strikes of that period. His gigantic scheme to corner cotton in 1837 ruined thousands. Biddle was the first great corruptionist that this country produced.

During the panic of '36, Albert Brisbane wrote, "Not a dozen men survived bankruptcy between Albany and Buffalo." And in the greater panic which followed a year later, 128 large concerns failed in ten days, and all the banks in America suspended specie payment.

The whole State of Indiana was brought to the edge of bankruptcy in 1853 by the banks. Out of 91 banks, 51 failed, and paid scarcely anything to creditors. It seems that the law, framed for capitalistic purposes, allowed a "financier" to start a bank without any capital except enough to pay for the printing of his bank-notes.

The same "law" prevailed in several other States. In Wisconsin a sharper would start his bank in a logging-camp or in some remote corner of the woods. As soon as his money was in circulation, it was as much as a man's life was worth to ask for specie payment. The only specie the bank would possess was powder and shot, and if the creditor did not leave in a hurry he was "paid-off."

In Michigan also, banking and bur-

glary amounted to the same thing, though more respectable devices were adopted than shot-guns. Boxes filled with glass or old iron, with a layer of silver on top, were their only assets; and the same "assets" often did duty for several banks.

So disastrous was the work done by the banks in Iowa that banking was made a penal offense, punishable by \$1,000 fine and one year in jail. This law was not repealed until 1857.

In Nebraska thousands of industrious farmers, merchants and mechanics were ruined by Savings Banks. The very name is yet an epithet of distrust and contempt, such are the memories of rascality connected with those institutions.

In the panic of '73, 19 banks smashed in a single day. St. Louis alone had to suffer the collapse of 25 banks before the crisis was over, and was nearly ruined.

In the panic of '84, 111 bank failures brought \$240,000,000 worth of poverty and misery to the nation. This is three times as much loss as the Pullman strike is asserted to have caused. The estimates of losses caused by strikes is invariable too large, as a strike does not destroy business, but only postpones it.

In the panic of '93, 141 national banks suspended in three months and 415 private banks, trust companies, etc., collapsed. The total national loss caused by that panic can never be computed. For months millions of men and women were out of employment, and the destitution in the great cities will never be forgotten by those who saw it.

Without counting the national banks, there were 1,234 bank failures from 1864 to 1896, with liabilities of \$220,629,988. And from 1863 to 1882, 87 national banks smashed, with a total loss to depositors of \$7,000,000.

Allowing that the private banks pay 50 cents on the dollar, there is thus a loss every week day of over \$11,000 from broken banks. This is the direct loss in actual cash, but the far greater loss is the lack of security and stability which these unreliable banks cause.

A general feeling of apprehension, most fatal to business, is created by our lack of confidence in our banks. The slightest rumor often sends us flying for our money. Some time ago, a man dropped dead from heart disease in front of a Troy bank; a crowd collected at once, and the rumor of a run on the bank brought every depositor to its doors. In a few hours the bank was bankrupt.

A business man gave me a unique view of the utility of banks recently. He said, "You see, our financiering is so reckless that every depositor is compelled to pull out his money and invest it in some enterprise, because he can't trust it very long in these rotten banks." The same

argument, however, applies to the firebug, who makes business good for the building trades.

In brief, no "agitator" has done as much to disturb business as the banker. Considered as a criminal, no one is more difficult to convict, or more likely to be pardoned. An average of ten bank-wreckers are set free every year, on all manner of flimsy pretexts.

In almost every State, there are a few banks whose history has been spotless and honorable; and it has been common for every banker to throw the cloak of their good name over his misdeeds. If a banker embezzles, it is generally spoken of as a misfortune or an unlucky accident, while if a striker breaks the slightest city ordinance, it is regarded as just what might be expected.

My object has been to show that as a general rule the trade union not only prevents lawlessness but promotes prosperity by advancing wages and making employment more secure; while the banker, considering him as a type of the capitalistic, anti-trade union class, has decreased prosperity and added greatly to the normal risks of business. The trade union distributes prosperity where it is most needed; but the bank has been the agency by which prosperity has been concentrated where it was least needed.

The legitimate capitalist makes the greatest mistake of his life in fighting trade unions instead of co-operating with them against financial schemers, political blackmailers and monopolists. It is to the employer's interest to have intelligent and contented workmen; but it is not to his interest to have a system of financial and political parasitism, such as exists today.

National disasters are not caused by the strike of trade unionists, but by the wars of the politicians, the panics of the bankers and the "corners" of monopolists. Ninety years ago, American shipping was swept from the seas, not by a strike among the sailors, but by a foolish embargo devised by the "statesmen" of the time.

The great strike of the English engineers in '97 was said by all capitalistic papers in that country to be a national calamity; yet who would say it cost England a fraction as much as the politicians' war in South Africa, which has cost 35,000 men dead or disabled, and \$720,000,000?

Every honest business man owes a large debt to trade unions, though very few make any effort to pay it. No doubt nine out of ten have been unaware of their obligation. Wherever business is dull or money is scarce, there is some other cause for it than the endeavors of organized workmen to raise wages. Many a town has been ruined by the schemes

of financiers or the greed of employers, but few, if any, by the unions.

Business depends on buyers, and buyers must get money before they can spend it. This is the main condition of prosperity, which professors and capitalists alike have ignored. Poorly paid workers buy very little, and machines buy nothing at all. Automatic machinery, owned by a few capitalists, is one of the greatest destroyers of business, if no provision is made for the displaced workers.

The prosperity of the middle classes, and, in the last analysis, of all classes, depends upon high wages. The druggist, the merchant, the doctor, the actor, etc., are less prosperous when the workingman has less money. Business is sustained, not by the occasional purchase of a luxury, but by the steady, everyday purchase of high class necessities.

Suppose every American worker were to become as cheap and ox-like as the poor creatures who are brought from Hungary to work in the coal mines, what would become of our manufacturers? A writer who inspected the coal mines in 1884 describes the women who were then employed at the coke ovens. Clothed only in short chemise and cowhide boots, and some of them naked from the knees down and from the waist up, these grimy Amazons toiled all day long, hauling the hot coke out of the ovens and forking it into freight cars. Those who had babies brought them to the coal yard and laid them in a wheelbarrow or on the sooty ground. No more unhuman creatures could be imagined, as they labored in the sweltering heat like the stokers of Hades, with their steeling black hair caught between their teeth. Nine of these people, men and women, lived in two small rooms, and their store-bill for a month was only \$27, or ten cents a day each. How much would such citizens as these help business?

In a city like Fall River, for instance, where the manufacturers have been especially greedy and tyrannical, how many pianos, typewriters and silk dresses are sold in proportion to the population? Is it not true that the trade of the city is mainly in pork, flour and cheap ready-made clothing?

The story of the Fall River manufacturers is a tale of shame. It is a history of embezzling treasurers, ten per cent cut-downs following twenty per cent dividends, and the importation of all manner of cheap workers. At present the weavers' wages range from \$3 to \$9.50 a week, and still the remorseless process of reduction continues.

It is this suicidal folly on the part of capitalists that ruins business. If an em-

ployer cannot be compelled by his workmen to pay good wages, he should be compelled by other capitalists to do so. It is an evidence of self-destructive short-sightedness on the part of employers that they are, as Adam Smith said, "always and everywhere in a sort of combination not to raise the wages of labor."

The history of ancient and modern nations shows that the basis of national prosperity is the condition of the working people. What was called the "Golden Age" in the history of Greece was that period when trade unions were strongest. Those magnificent buildings and statutes, whose fragments we treasure up in our museums, were made during a time when Greece was honey-combed with unionism.

The same was even more noticeably true of Rome. The real prosperity and glory of the Roman Empire was based upon the management of its industry by trade unions, not upon the achievements of its soldiers. When the unions were strong, Rome was strong; and when they were destroyed, Rome crumbled into ruins.

In Rome the army got the medals, but the unions did the work. The union leaders were the captains of industry. They undertook the building of roads, the collection of taxes, and the proper distribution of work, food and clothing. For instance, as De Cassagnac tells us, the butchers' union collected the rent in hogs in Brutium and Samnium the bakers received the rent in grain; the wine-makers received it in grapes; the sailors and wagoners transported it; and all the tribute of Rome's colonies was deposited in the trade union warehouses.

The unions became so strong that the Roman politicians and militarists became afraid of them, and gradually, by a series of attacks upon their property and rights, broke up their organizations. This threw industry into chaos and disorder; and in spite of the eloquence of politicians and the valor of armies, Rome plunged into bankruptcy and decay.

English history tells the same story. The Elizabethan period, when genius and daring were at their height, was a result of the Peasants' Rebellion and the breaking up of feudalism. England was never so happy as then, says J. Thorold Rogers.

Thus it has been proved, I hope, that the welfare of trade unions means the welfare of the nation; that the unsettling of business is due less to strikes than to panics and reckless financiers; and that the trade union has been the main agency by which the benefits of American civilization have been distributed among the people.

THE EVOLUTION OF THE LABOR MOVEMENT.

The history of the labor movement has represented a persistency that has broken the bondage of the individual man. It has represented itself as a humane movement and is considered as no small part of the whole industrial, intellectual and spiritual movement of the age. It has come to stay for the good of society as a whole, and it will play a significant part in the world's drama from this time on. It is holding the stage in Russia today, and before the curtain runs down on the first act a new Russia will be enacted. It has sounded its protest to the powers that be in Sweden, to the effect that labor refuses to fight labor to the glory of despotism. It is representing itself on lines of a new kind of civilization, the brotherhood of man and the bringing about of the prophecy, "The kingdom of the earth." Its mission is lofty and its powers are mighty for the regeneration of the human family. The labor movement has so much power for good, and its mission is of such a grave character, its aims so far reaching, and its success so important to the family as a whole that we need to at all times exercise the justice to permit ourselves to discriminate between fundamental unionism and its wretched excesses. It will require on the part of the labor membership a continuing of that persistency that has been displayed from the beginning to correct the faults (and they are many and grievous, we admit). But we can renew our ambition and faith on the laurels already won and rest content that our cause is just; that our faith has found a lodgment with others, and that we have progressed to the extent of arousing the intelligent consideration of employers that we might get together and try to find a way out where the mutual interests of both may best be served. The mission is no longer confined to the membership and leadership of the labor movement. It has impressed its necessity on national life and the far seeing politicians are reckoning with its influence and power, appreciating that all legislation championed by organized labor is for the betterment of mankind and womankind, and society is concerned to the extent of having investigated to the effect of learning that the ideal American home rests upon an ideal industrial regulation; also that it is false economy to cheapen the condition of the purchasing public, and the laborer whether he be in the union or on the outside of it has learned the truth, that if it were not for the organization of labor, wage-earners would not receive the compensation they do.

So the labor movement has won a friendly acceptance of its rights to exist and its right to assistance from employers and the public at large in its far-reach-

ing policies that go so far as to concern even our national life and society as a whole. Carroll D. Wright has the true conception of the labor movement when he says that it not only underlies all other questions but precedes them. It is the struggle of humanity, though we hear it discussed in a narrow sense. They that aid the movement in a rational way are friends of humanity, those who oppose it are enemies. Unionism has accomplished so much that is beneficial and good results so far achieved have proved a development of all the people. It has not existed without its faults, and the mistakes, while deplorable and at times causing vast injury, still we feel consoled, knowing as we do that these errors are traceable at times to youth in the movement and at other times to inexperienced management.

These mistakes therefore should appeal to us on the lines of being tolerant with the offenders and the substituting of reason for feeling with the purpose of using the examples as experiences to build to grander effect. The evolution of wise management necessary to a successful labor movement must be brought about by mistakes maliciously or carelessly entered into.

No union as a whole willfully makes mistakes. They at times through a misconception of their own position, the position of the employer or the public, do the thing they should not do, but these errors are inevitable and tend to greater efficiency as time rolls on. The errors of the labor movement can in many, many cases be traced to the inciting of passions, and to the failure to grasp the fact that in employment matters there are two parties instead of one. To that exclusive character in business life who formerly used to flaunt in the face of his employes the divine right sentiment, "I propose to run my business to suit myself, stand off;" and to the untutored union which sends out its requests in the form of "Thou shalt," "You must," "There is no other but me," "Submit and live, by order of the powers that be." You can see a strong resemblance between these two characters and I feel safe in saying that to their method much conflict has been responsible; but these are matters of the past or largely so. The present era is one of good-will, co-operation and cordial relationship between man and man.

I think that I have represented myself as being tolerant to all the natural defects the labor movement is subject to, but I would consider myself untrue to the mission if I did not take issue with one of the excesses seldom entered into, I am pleased to say, and that is the breaking of contracts. The labor union can least afford, of all branches of society, to have

its honor assailed, can least afford to break trust with public or private respect, and one of the hopeful features of the movement is that as its age increases its reliability in this respect becomes better and better entrenched. He or they who disregard the sacredness of contract is a dangerous element and is a retarding factor to labor's advancement. The contract breaker stigmatizes not only his own section but the entire movement, and inasmuch as he injures the whole, laws to discipline should be prescribed in the national craft constitutions. It has been truly said that one of the greatest things done by a labor leader was the action of John Mitchell, when the membership of the anthracite miners were in fierce conflict with the operators, in that memorable strike of 1902, when passions were being incited and desperate means employed, one side against the other. He stood in his manhood true to his trust as a leader and emphatically refused the aid tendered by the bituminous wing of the miners' organization on the grounds that they could not strike without a violation of contract. How many would have refused that aid at such a time, which would have brought victory at the cost of dishonoring the entire labor movement? In this age of the survival of the fittest it was a splendid example to society as a whole, and, coming as it did through a labor leader, the labor movement naturally was the gainer. We should, as a whole, profit by example of this character, if the labor movement is to fulfill its mission of labor emancipation. Society cannot be changed to conform to a higher civilization on the lines of enlarged liberties and more equal equalities, if the conflict is to be a demonstration of the abuse of might. If we have been wronged through society we will not correct the evil by wronging others on similar lines. Legitimate reasoning and convincing argument of the merits or demerits of each and all propositions is the only true test through which changed industrial conditions can be successfully introduced. This will demand the use of the principle of conciliation and arbitration fought out in the boards of conference and from there to be engrafted into agreements fairly entered into and sacredly kept. In discussing this question it might be profitable to give a few examples of attempted discipline of rebellious and defiant local organizations by national leadership and constitutional law. In this matter rests one of the hardest problems, the problem of discipline, without which we are at the mercy of division and mob rule, which means disruption, discredit, and the sacrifice of all hopes of enlarged liberty. So serious is this matter as viewed by the national leadership that a few at least of the international organizations have engrafted laws to force disci-

pline on this question. The contract of the International Typographical Union and the American Publishers' Association contains a clause to the effect that a violation by a local union demands the filling of their places with other men, and the expulsion of the offending local. I have heard that the longshoremen have a similar proviso in their contract with the great lakes shipping interests and they have exercised the discipline, going so far on one occasion as to fill the strikers' places with non-union labor. It is pleasing to say that the representative leaders of the labor movement are unanimous in favor of compelling adherence to contract. We need not fear the violation of this principle. It is only at long lapses of time that we hear of a broken contract on the part of the union, and for the one error of the kind for labor, several can be charged to the other wings of society. Our record is encouraging and honorable and good faith has been kept with the employers' associations in the matter of agreement, the progress being made from year to year developing from the age of prejudice, strikes and contentions of all kinds on to the condition of tolerance where labor's demands first were listened to. This consideration led up to the present age, the age of recognition where the agreement, the modern instrument through which industrial peace is guaranteed, the selected choice of things offered as a regulator to industrial controversy by all men who believe in justice and fair play. This agreement idea is regenerating the strike to the backwoods and classing it among the ancient things, labelling it as having played its part and a significant part has been assigned to it in the trade union movement. Its mission has been one of education and evolution in industrial life and due to its operation has the mind force of society been directed to ways and means more profitable as a solution to industrial tug-of-war operations and industrial interests. The strike was the mother of the agreement arrangement, and it was through the strike movements of the past that comes the responsibility of the departure from old customs of inequality to the modern way of man to man dealings.

President Tuttle of the New England Civic Federation, in speaking on the question of conference, produces agreement. He also shows in this same argument what produces strikes. He says: "If, on one hand, the employer says, 'That is your part and this is mine, and there is a wall between us, and nothing can be done on either side of the wall except that I will do what I please on my side and you do what you please on yours,' so long as that kind of dealing with the question lasts so long there will be trouble."

But when it can be understood that there is a common interest taken in every man who works, and that the employer may come up collectively, or through his committee, state his case and have it heard, and the employe can come to his committee, and state his case and have it heard, I think you have begun to solve the labor trouble in that particular instance, and there will be little difficulty in reaching ultimately an agreement which will be reasonably satisfactory to both sides.

In the modern business world it is becoming more and more agreed that it is advantageous to subserve the rights of the individual in his bargaining capacity, that he may share in the advantage of a collective contract. The trade agreement furnishes a permanency to business. It stops complete the fluctuating periods responsible to strikes and lockouts and their disastrous effects from so many standpoints. It accords to the labor movement a recognition without which the labor membership was forced to use the strike as its only means of defense. It has stopped the spirit of feeling one against the other, and instituted a spirit of tolerance and respect, and a proper consideration for the interests as provided as represented by all. The general influence coming through rather than violent methods of settling differences is commending itself stronger and stronger, as time rolls on. In it is represented the evolutionary process responsible to education, made possible through the experiences we have passed through. I am in the habit of dwelling on the necessity of a higher education among trade unionists; we need the higher development of the families of the wage earners, and as industrial conditions change in the upward trend we find the representatives of these families becoming more numerous in the colleges and universities, and through these opportunities they will find places for themselves in all the great callings. This naturally will have the effect of lifting those whom they represent to a higher plane. Their offsprings from the workers' homes in their developed sense will become the labor leaders of their generation; for, as it appeals to me, the regulation of industrial conditions must come through men who have been trained toward one another, not brought up under antagonistic circumstances, and they from their places in the professions or as representatives of industry, will from their early impressions be more broad and just in the dealings and concessions accorded the wage earner. If we are to have industrial peace we must have industrial virtue, and these virtues must represent honesty in work and in the wages and conditions that surround work, absolute fidelity on both sides and the fullest sense of justice which can

come only through the ability of one man to put himself in another man's place. This last virtue is taught in the trade union school as is also the principle of how to think right as well as how to feel right toward our fellowmen. This higher development gives to us of the school of trade unionism satisfaction in our work, and the progress coming therefrom. We can fully understand that as the advance of intelligence grows with the wage earner the reward comes not only in that one particular, but he will also be blessed in having his aspirations as a whole satisfied. The passage of the labor movement up to the present age has been slow, owing largely to the knowledge sufficient to do the right thing at the right time. Its road has been rough, filled with obstacles, one kind and another, put there in too many cases by the wage earners themselves. The membership of the labor movement appreciates, as it never did before, that if they are to continue and prosper, the movement will demand not only the fineness of organization, but that they will need the ablest kind of management. It will not permit the sentiment of the contract breaker or the narrow constructed individual who can see but one side of a single interest where several interests are involved. To determine policies the genius will have to be located, made general of and clothed with the authority of leadership. They will have to be advised with, and they will have to advise, and the rank and file, as a whole, will do well to accept their suggestions, and coming from a discipline of this character will be continued peace and prosperity to the wage earner. This is demanded, not only in the interests of extended conditions on the part of the laborer, but it is of more vast importance in maintaining that relationship with the different wings of society whose sympathy and influence has been gained through the persistency of years of patient waiting on the part of the toiling masses, now that they have represented themselves as agreeing with us in the necessity of a labor movement. We can't be too careful in handling the sacred trust, that progress may be continued to gladden humanity with the spectacle of a united and happy family made possible by the coming era of justice and fair play for one and all. The climbing process responsible to labor's advancement has been the result of hard, persistent work; we have climbed slowly but surely, gaining a mite at a time, denying ourselves much of the pleasures and possibilities of life in order that the general advancement may be realized. But the reward has come in the modern progress responsible to labor's activity.

Success—yes, our work has represented a grand achievement and one of the good things to keep in mind is that the possi-

bilities are even greater for the future than in the past, providing we remain true to each other and to the principles as represented in the organization through which we have changed industrial conditions and also men's ideas.

The evolution in industrial conditions in going on at a faster pace than ever before, the quickening of the pace is dependent on each of us as individuals. We, in our continuous success must stand inseparably connected, a higher respect one for the other must prevail. Improved methods should be developed and operated, respect for the rights of others must find a lodgment with us. A more generous spirit should be shown to the organization. We should remember that the

organization best financed is the one that has the least trouble, and fully realize that the stability, usefulness and growth depends greatly upon the proper management of the affairs of the society.

By following these precepts we can continue and prosper in the work of conveying gladness to saddened hearts and helpless souls. The distributing agency, the trade union, which distributes its blessings all over the land, doing its silent work, is commending itself to all. Its beneficent work will go on as long as men are created with hands and hearts ready to prevent injustice and just as ready to defend full freedom and industrial rights. —Wm. J. Shields, in *The Carpenter*.

TO ORGANIZED LABOR AND FRIENDS IN THE UNITED STATES.

DEAR SIRS AND BROTHERS—

Every wage-earner, every member of organized labor, and every sympathizer with our cause must feel gratified with the result of Labor's first skirmish in Maine, where a stinging rebuke was administered to Mr. Littlefield and his allies.

All the trust forces, all the resources of corporate wealth, all the prestige of administrative power were thrown into the fight to save Mr. Littlefield from utter defeat.

Labor, with very slender financial resources, made a clean-cut, straightforward contest, purely on the grounds of securing justice for Labor and the rights of the common people.

As you know, we cut Mr. Littlefield's majority from 5,419, in 1904, to less than 1,000 in the campaign just closed.

Though Mr. Littlefield slipped in, the vote was a moral victory for our cause and will have great influence in the general campaign.

Our problem now is to defeat the enemies of Labor and elect as many as possible of our friends and sympathizers all over the country in the November elections.

There are nominated a number of staunch trade union men in various districts and we want to elect every one of them.

We are grateful for the response made to our first call for funds, but the total already contributed falls far short of what is necessary to carry on the immense campaign in which we are involved.

You will understand that in order that our cause may be adequately presented and defended we must have many trade union speakers in the field, we must distribute a large quantity of printed matter, and in many other ways aid the

local organizations in defeating our enemies and electing our friends.

The hostile press of the country and all the resources of trust and corporate power are arrayed against us in a desperate effort to prejudice the people of the country against the justice of our cause and to misrepresent the issues upon which Labor is making this campaign.

The situation is such that it is imperative that we have sufficient funds with which to meet the appeals which are daily made to American Federation of Labor headquarters for assistance in carrying on the great work of Labor's campaign in all parts of the country.

We have accomplished much good preliminary work with the funds which were contributed by the unions in response to our first call.

But we cannot achieve the results which you desire no less than we, unless there is a more general and individual response to our appeal.

We have refused to accept campaign contributions from candidates.

You will, therefore, appreciate that we are entirely dependent upon you for the funds necessary to carry this campaign to a glorious finish.

We now ask that each and every trade union member will individually contribute the sum of \$1 to the campaign fund. In any event, it must be understood that we are glad to receive any contribution, and in any way that the unions desire to assist, but we believe that this personal appeal to each union member is justified by the importance of the campaign upon which we have entered, and we believe the members will respond.

The time is short between now and the November election. What we can accomplish depends largely on the gener-

osity and promptness of your response. The secretary of each local union is urgently asked to read this appeal at the first meeting of the union.

It is hoped that the matter will be taken up at once, the individual contributions made, and the amount forwarded.

At the close of the campaign a full accounting of all receipts and expenditures will be made.

Send all contributions to Secretary, Frank Morrison, 423-425 G Street Northwest, Washington, D. C.

SAMUEL GOMPERS, President.
FRANK MORRISON, Secretary.

JAMES DUNCAN, First Vice-President,
JOHN MITCHELL, Second Vice-President,
JAMES O'CONNELL, Third Vice-President,
MAX MORRIS, Fourth Vice-President,
D. A. HAYES, Fifth Vice-President,
DANIEL J. KEEFE, Sixth Vice-President,
WM. D. HUBER, Seventh Vice-President,
JOS. F. VALENTINE, Eighth Vice-Pres.,
JOHN B. LENNON, Treasurer,
Executive Council American Federation
of Labor.

Washington, D. C., Sept. 24, 1906.

AN OPEN LETTER TO F. S. LUTHER, PRESIDENT OF TRINITY COLLEGE, HARTFORD, CONN.

WILL J. ROHR, IN TYPOGRAPHICAL JOURNAL.

Sir—On July 11 the associated press published extracts from a speech delivered by you before the American Institute of Instruction. Among other things accredited to you is the following:

"Today there are few apprentices, and such as may still be found are learning very little. The labor unions restrict the number of apprentices to limits grotesquely below obvious needs. The boys suffer from the jealousy, ill-will and incompetence of those who are supposed to teach them, and from the greed of employers who try to get a man's work out of them for a boy's wages."

Assuming that you have been quoted correctly, it appears to me that as a president of a college, a place where learning is sought, it shows a woeful lack of knowledge upon existing conditions, both past and present. In attempting to justify your position in this matter, you apparently, with "malice aforethought," condemn 2,000,000 workers, to say nothing of the captains who guide the ships of industry. Perhaps you are a good listener, and mayhap you have listened to a sermon preached by some child-labor slave-driver.

Some twenty-five years ago necessity forced a boy of the writer's acquaintance to assume his part in supporting and maintaining a family. It was no very difficult thing for him to secure an apprenticeship. The particular line selected is immaterial; suffice to say that for the first year the apprentice was to receive \$3 per week; for the second year, \$4 per week; the third year, \$5 per week, and the fourth year, \$6 per week. This was the price and length of time stipulated by the employer. It was accepted, with this proviso: Should the apprentice demonstrate his fitness at the expiration of two years, he was to have the fourth-year rate. He accepted the condition. When the two years had passed, the foreman of the department in which the apprentice was

employed resigned. The place was tendered to the apprentice—and refused. The reason: responsibility put upon his shoulders was worth more than \$6. The apprentice resigned, traveled 1,500 miles and secured employment as a journeyman and at the prevailing wage. During all these years he has taken an active interest in labor conditions and in labor's welfare. Many cities have been visited, and many factories and shops entered, only to discover conditions as they existed in that one particular city.

When you state that "The boys suffer from the jealousy, ill-will and incompetence of those who are supposed to teach them," you are seriously in error. When you state that "and from the greed of employers who try to get a man's work out of them for a boy's wages," you state the truth partially. There is hardly a man upon the roster of the American Federation of Labor but who at one time served an apprenticeship, either in a large or small shop or factory. And what is more, every one of these men would, and the great majority do, take a personal interest in the boys or apprentices introduced into the workrooms.

But—now we come to where the workman does not govern. The apprentice is given something to do; generally it is sweeping out the shop or running errands, as the manager desires. In other words, he is not placed at the head of the college the first day of his arrival. If the boy keeps his eyes and ears open, the chances are that in much less time than four or five years he will be in a position to demand and receive the journeyman's wage. Another thing which tends to nullify your statement is, that when an apprentice is placed to do a certain kind of work, and he learns to perform it exceedingly well, the employer—not the men—insists that he shall remain there.

Suppose that one of your professors informed you that one of the students was

competent to take the professorship in another department, and also made the statement that he was inclined to put him there; would you allow it to be done? It is safe to assume that you would not. Neither will the employer, as a rule, whether he is in charge of his factory or shop in person or represented for a foreman, allow that apprentice to become responsible for expensive machinery.

And again, you surely must be aware of the fact that all apprentices are not college graduates. You are also aware of the fact that, in the majority of cases, the apprentice must acquire an education while he is learning his trade (the vicious and demoralizing result of employing child labor). The labor unions are vindicated from your slanderous statement, "that labor unions restrict the number of apprentices to limits grotesquely below obvious needs," by the fact that there is not a labor union in the country—and further, there has been none, but for perhaps a very short time—but whose roster perpetually contained idle men; men who sought work with a determination of finding it, were it to be found. In one organization having a membership of nearly 50,000 members, 3,000 to 5,000 were continuously looking for work, and managed to gather up a few fragments that fell from the table.

In the city of Chicago there is an organization that holds weekly lectures for the benefit of apprentices. Secured halls, men of known reputation and competency, paid all bills incurred, for the benefit of—well, unless you have become so prejudiced, you will admit, for the good of the apprentices. Realizing that the employer, through his agent, was not giving the coming journeymen a proper chance, this means was taken to assist them. Of course, the labor unions allow only a limited number of apprentices to a specified number of journeymen. Your contention is that the doors should be thrown wide open and allow the proprietors to put on as many apprentices as he chooses to. This has been done in some places, with what result? One or two journeymen and all the boys they could make room for. When these boys become proficient—if they ever do—they in turn must submit to the same conditions. The result would be so obvious that the writer is of the opinion that even a college president could see it.

Another statement which you make, if quoted correctly, is:

"The amount of poor, mean, unskilled, disreputable work now foisted on the public and paid for by the public in an indication of the worse conditions which may be expected unless some radical improvement be undertaken at once."

The answer to this is so readily apparent that we marvel. The newspapers demand double the amount of work from their employes as formerly; the commercial printer, likewise; the woodworkers,

metal polishers, and in fact every other craft in the same strain. Wages have gone up slightly, but the cost of living has gone up with leaps and bounds. Employers at one time were satisfied with 7 and 8 per cent on money invested; now it is 10 per cent on a capital of five times the actual money put into the business. Forty per cent must be squeezed out, and somebody is compelled to pay it. The consumer receives an inferior article, the employe has less than when he received his raise, while the employer is satisfied—sometimes—if he makes 40 per cent on actual investment. He demands and insists that so much labor shall go into a certain article, and it is a bold worker who is presumptuous enough to inform him that his product is a cheap and worthless one. The employer gives the public just what it demands, and thousands of them give what they do not desire.

Did you, Mr. Luther, ever hear of a workman deliberately placing preservatives in meat without instructions from his employer? Did you ever hear of a man who was addicted to the liquor habit demand that it should contain a large amount of fusel oil? Did you ever see a workman take whitewood, run it through the planer and other machines, make it up into a piano case and turn the finished product onto a trusting public for mahogany or walnut? These questions could continue indefinitely, yet the only answer that could be given is, that the workman has nothing to do with all this; his is a part secondary to profits. There are in this universe at the present time just as skilled, and, if anything, more skilled artisans than there has been in the past. Conditions of productions, machinery and the insatiable desire for gold, have given to the world what you term "poor, mean, unskilled, disreputable work."

You also state in above quotation that: "now foisted on the public and paid for by the public is an indication of the worse conditions which may be expected unless some radical improvement be undertaken at once." Allow me to state that labor unions foresaw this condition many years ago, and have endeavored, to the best of their ability, to remedy this evil. Yet, not even you would or could expect, with the burden that has been carried by the men who have gone to make up these organizations, to have them assume the expense necessary to educate the young boys—not alone educate them in the R's, but also to educate and teach them an honorable trade.

The subjoined extract from an article by Judge Caldwell of the juvenile court of Cincinnati is in wonderful contrast to some of the statements accredited to you:

You are apparently on the right road to

accomplish a very much-to-be-desired end, and when that movement is started you will also discover that labor unions will lend every assistance within their power, for they will profit thereby just as much as the boys themselves. They realize that the better educated a boy is the better workman he will make. Now, will you turn out a boy who has a fair knowledge how to perform some one of the many arts, thereby enabling him to accept something better than two or three dollars a week, when his school term has ended? The public schools should teach manual training, along with reading, writing and arithmetic.

As the course is now conducted a boy goes to school until he is fourteen, and is then, by reason of his circumstances, forced out into the world to earn a living, knowing how to do nothing that can make him of value to an employer. The result is that he has to take anything he can get at any price he can get, and his natural bent is often diverted and his natural talents wasted. If manual training entered into the school curriculum the boy at fourteen would be able to do fairly skilled work in some branch and would be ready to go into something useful to somebody and profitable to himself. He

would then enter earnestly upon a life calling instead of, as now, drifting about from one thing to another.

The trade unions, I understand, endorse this view. They are not equipped for educating all the boys who need to be doing active work in the world. In a measure, the same rule is true as applied to girls, but it is pre-eminently a necessity in the training of boys for usefulness as citizens.

The gentleman who voices these sentiments is thoroughly conversant with existing conditions, and is doing all within his power to secure an improvement. He does not find it necessary to lay all the wickedness and evils that now infest the industrial world at the doors of unionism. They have their faults, yet, in the concrete, you will find that thousands upon thousands of union men have lost their all through the profligacy of banks and kindred institutions. Three times have we been stripped of every dollar we had in the world, not by labor unions, but by men who had passed through college. Would you think a criticism condemning all bank presidents as dishonest would be just and right? No! Then why should you have condemned the 2,000,000 men who comprise organized labor today?

THE UNION ANNEX TO THE SALOON.

LUKE M'KENNY, IN NEW YORK MECHANIC.

I want to preface this article by stating that I am not what is known as a teetotaler. I like, and have always liked good German brew as well as any man, and no one realizes any better than I do the reviving and invigorating effects of a can of good lager after a fellow has been making a human machine of himself for eight or ten hours, with tepid water out of lead-tainted pipes as his only beverage. Nor do I object to a cocktail, a gin fizz, or a rickey once in awhile.

All of these stimulants can be used and not abused by any man of moral courage. But, alas! sometimes there are environments of such a nature that moral courage becomes a forgotten trait and then there are more good intentions to pave Hades with.

When I spoke to some of my friends about the subject I intended to write upon for the August Mechanic one or two of them shook their heads and murmured something about "bad policy;" but petty considerations, like the objections of certain individuals or classes, never did cut any figure with me when I thought I was right, and as I hold that in this land of ours a man has a sacred right even to be in the wrong, I will try to "hew to the line" and defy criticism.

When I lived out in Ohio I saw the evil I am about to attack, but it was only visible in spots.

In the East here it has spread over the whole labor movement so that it forms the rule rather than the exception.

I refer to that damnable, soul-weakening, debauching annex to the meeting hall—the saloon.

Did I say annex to the meeting hall? Well, then, let me amend by reversing the status.

Must this mighty giant—labor—challenge the world to witness the righteousness of its cause, demean itself forever by carrying around upon its back the saloon, as Sinbad the Sailor carried the old man of the sea? How long is the gin mill to continue to be the ante-room?

It does no good for a few to say that it is "bad policy" to give publicity to this evil. I say it is *good policy* to publicly shame labor into eradicating an evil that it seems disposed to remain passive under.

Let no man try to tell me that I am exaggerating when I say positively that I can count upon the fingers of one hand, and have to spare, the meeting halls in the larger cities within a radius of fifty miles of New York City Hall, that are not connected in some way with a saloon, out of the dozens that I have visited.

Come up on the mourners' bench, boys, and tell the wholesome truth

Let em paint, in words, a few of them

for The Mechanic; understand, I speak only of those I know—the building trades. Here is one with a passageway leading from the street to a low ceilinged room in the rear of the barroom. A couple of archways, or one or two open doors, give us a view of the bar as we pass through. Lined up before the bar and seated at tables in the barroom are members of the union whose meeting is to be held in the rear. Each new arrival hears, as he passes through the entry, his name called by from one to a half-dozen of his fellow-members who either invite him to "come and have one" or else ask him can he "blow."

The meeting has begun and at least one-third of the members are still in the barroom. At one corner of the bar is a group, pretty well "shot," listening to a "knocker" who is maligning some, to him, "grouchy mug" who is in the meeting hall trying to do what is right.

Further along the bar is some cheap "petty larceny" sub-contractor who is under charges by the business agent of the union. He has a few dollars that he has determined to make himself a "good fellow" with and he is debauching some of the jurors that are to try him by buying them a few beers; and, indeed, he actually prejudices men in his favor by his selfish sociability. Yet these very men would indignantly deny that they could be bribed or influenced by anybody, and are often the loudest shouters against a "prostituted judiciary."

In half an hour or so the seargeant-at-arms is sent forth for a round-up of members. They all troop in then, but it would have been better had they stayed outside. The meeting very often becomes a bedlam. Several star performers are constantly seeking the floor and the gavel is in constant use.

The chairman, if at all weak-kneed, is

brow-beaten by some fellow in his cups, who might in his sober senses be a decent, conservative member, and who, as a matter of fact, may have come to the hall sober and with the best of intentions. Often, at such meetings, motions are railroaded through for disastrous strikes for which hundreds of innocent women and children must suffer.

Drink brings uppermost the worst side of every man. Unkind, insulting and thoughtless words are uttered in debate which engender enmities that are often life-long.

Many a well-meaning member comes down with the intention of paying his dues—perhaps back dues; the dues go over the bar and instead of having a clear card in the morning he is on the list of "Members Suspended."

Some of the meeting halls are a little different—they are above the saloon, or even in the basement of one—but there is little difference in the effect—the bar cuts almost the same figure.

Labor would find a regeneration; the stimulus of a greater conception of its dignity and mission would come to it, if it would divorce its meeting halls from saloons. Indeed, if we are to agitate for municipal ownership of one thing in particular, it would serve labor's interests better, and would be a boon to society in general, if the erection and maintenance of public meeting halls in each city ward was to be advocated and agitated for.

I confidently believe that no craftsman, whose living comes in whole or in part from the traffic in liquor, will object to the sentiments I have expressed. Such conditions weaken labor in general and in consequence their craft has to bear its share of the burden. Yet it matters not whether any agree with me, I will "stand pat."

PRESS ON.

PARK BENJAMIN.

Press on! surmount the rocky steps,
Climb boldly o'er the torrent's arch:
He fails alone who feebly creeps,
He wins who dares the hero's march.
Be thou a hero! let thy might
Tramp on eternal snows its way,
And, through the ebon walls of night,
Hew down a passage unto day.

Press on! if once and twice they feet
Slip back and stumble, harder try;
From him who never dreads to meet
Danger and death, they're sure to fly.
To coward ranks the bullet speeds,
While on their breasts who never quail
Gleams, guardian of chivalric deeds,
Bright courage, like a coat of mail.

Press on! if Fortune play thee false
Today, tomorrow she'll be true;
Whom now she sinks, she now exalts,
Taking old gifts and granting new.
The wisdom of the present hour
Makes up for follies past and gone:
To weakness strength succeeds, and power
From frailty springs—press on! press on!

Therefore, press on! and reach the goal,
And gain the prize, and wear the crown:
Faint not! for to the steadfast soul
Come wealth, and honor, and renown.
To thine own self be true, and keep
Thy mind from sloth, thy heart from
Soll;
Press on! and thou shalt surely reap
A heavenly harvest for thy toil!

CORRESPONDENCE

Local Union No. 1.

To the Electrical Workers, Members of the I. B. E. W.

GREETING—As time rolls on we all grow older, but do we grow wiser? Look over your case carefully and you will find that no matter how indifferent you may be you have grown wiser, in spite of yourself. If such is the case, how much could you have advanced had you have but made the effort? Don't let the idea ever get into your head, that you know enough, for you will not travel one day without finding some one who can tell you things you never even thought of. Therefore, educate yourself and advance, for there is no such a thing as stand still at this age of the world. If you do not fit yourself for your place, others will and you are left to roam and as age crawls on, you become a pitiable object of charity! Your free American pride should assert itself when you think of it. The men who are employing you to make their fortunes, have no use for you after you have grown decrepit, and unless you have educated yourself and are valuable to them will dispense with you, and as they are allied in a way the next man don't want you, unless he can get you much cheaper than a young man. In my rambles during the day, I enter all kinds of places employing labor, and every one has some feature that leaves room for improvement. In the engine room, no provision has been made for the comfort of the man who puts in ten hours out of every twenty-four. Every effort is made to save coal, but the men are not considered and some are so lax in education and energy that they are simply submitting to torture for ten hours to pay for very indifferent comforts for the other fourteen.

The dangers and discomforts don't enter the mind of the employer, but hustle and get the work done so they can get their money the sooner and have more coming in, while the wage earner is using up the small amount saved between jobs. Educate yourself and organize. When you know your real worth and are well organized, you can then secure comforts and pay, that will allow you to put some away for unavoidable mishaps. The old rule of from hand to mouth, will not apply in this day of labor saving machinery.

To every young man, I say find one of the Almighty's best gifts, take her to yourself and establish a home. Then you will have an incentive to cause you

to put forward your best efforts. There is nothing on earth next to your mother better than a good wife, and when the little cares come, if shared by two the burden is not so heavy.

No. 1 is chock full of business and every meeting well attended. The young officers are a grand success. Organized labor in St. Louis is generally prosperous. Bro. P. J. Coughlin (the Irish-Jew) was again elected General President and organizer of The International Building Trades Council, but he don't forget The Brotherhood.

Wishing the I. B. E. W. success, and always at its service, I am,
Fraternally,

BALDY.

St. Louis, Mo.

Local Union No. 37.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Well brothers, Labor Day is past and old 37 had its place in the line of march with our new banner and float we made quite a showing, but we had some rubber necks on the curb stone as usual and a few more had to visit their friends out of town. Brothers, Labor Day is not a visiting day or a day for out of town enjoyment; it is a separation day, it separates the union man from his non-union brother while he is in the line of march and shows to his non-union brothers that their place is by their sides in the ranks with men. There is no men of any labor craft out side the unions today. Do not refuse to join the union because some poor ignorant fellow said something to hurt your feelings, the Locals are not responsible for what some hot headed brother will say. Don't take him for example. Look at all the good men that are in the Locals. Be a man like the many, not a fool like the few. Brothers, a union man that lives up to his Constitution is a man to be respected and honored by all. You are not a union man because you join a Local and wear a button on your coat. Brothers you have got to study the good of the union, not only of your own little Local but of all unions. Brothers when you go in to buy a drink the first thing you do is look for the union card (sometimes they are in the window), then you look the bartender over for his button when you have had your drink you want a cigar (not from the National cigar stand) but from the bartender with the button and the box with the blue label.

But, brothers, some of you stop there in your unionism, you have some more to go on the road to unionism. You forget that the man that sells you your hat has a local. Ask him for his card, he will be delighted I am sure if he has one; if not, there are others that have, and the brother that sells clothes belongs to the same local as the brother that sells hats; also the man that sells shoes and the poor butcher brothers need your help to tell your wives, sisters and mothers to ask for their cards. If you do not eat at home eat in a restaurant where the card is on the wall.

Brothers, our Constitution tells you to help, aid and assist a needy brother. We are all brothers and there is a God that we all must trust in, if we don't we are not living up to the Constitution of our country or union principles. President Gompers has thrown open the gates of unionism to politics. Let us hope that it will be the means of bringing back to poor Uncle Sam good honest, clean government once more, like the good honest government he had before the trusts got control of it. Don't let the few dollars they have scare you, there is a living in this world for every one and that is all you will get. You can not take any with you when you die. Do not try and save money like Rockefeller, Morgan, Gould or any of those other people and see men, women and children starving in the slums of our big cities and yet you will say this is a civilized country when those that call themselves educated gentlemen will rob the hard earned money of his poor brother workman and spend it in the most contemptible vices that would make an uncivilized country hang its head in shame. How proud you are of your dear old stars and stripes and yet you will elect to office men who will allow it to be disgraced in this manner year after year. Almost every week you will read in the paper of some mean contemptible bank officer running away with thousands of dollars of poor people's money, you read and forget, but if a poor little officer in your Local runs away with a few dollars that he has earned twice over doing your work for you when you ought to be there to relieve him you never forget it, you will make it an excuse to drop out of the Local and squeal like a stuck pig about it when a man talks unionism to you ever after. For God's sake let us have politics in our Locals and clean government in our country and let us educate those kicking brothers and show them where they are wrong. Let our motto be: In God we trust.

D. M. M.,

Press Secretary.

Hartford, Conn., Sept. 30, 1906.

Local Union No. 39.

It is the wish of No. 39 as well as our solemn duty to vindicate Brothers Ike Campbell and Jess Kitchen of all

blame placed on their good names in the article which was published in the August issue of our WORKER.

We are proud of the fact that we have in our ranks one, who so ably wrote up the Cuyahogo situation though keenly we regret the circumstances which caused any imputations to be cast or, any stain to be placed upon the fair, clean records or that of the families of Brothers Campbell and Kitchen. This vindication places the blame where it rightfully belongs. In their honesty to their employer, to themselves, fellow-workers and the I. B. E. W., they respected orders with the feeling that all would be officially settled in the near future. Agreeable conditions are again restored due much to the efforts of those loyal brothers and despite the efforts of traitorous characters who sought to impede the progress of our flourishing organization we are holding those most important and most interesting meetings in the history of No. 39 as indicated.

In our last report, we paid on 325 members and six initiations. We have also been able to assist districts in distress by liberal assessments and extra donations of \$200.00 at a time. Still we have a strong protective fund untouched.

With the assistance of the Trades Council and the Threefer we are causing the employes of the Big Consolidated Street Railway to realize the benefits of membership in the I. B. E. W.. We have received a twenty-five cent per day increase from the Municipal Light Company with assurances that a shorter day will be conceded in the near future.

The much advertised Three-cent Street Railway is a strictly union job and a good indicator of the progressiveness of people of Cleveland in their fight against monopoly.

Local No. 39 is anxious to assist the A. F. of L. campaign to eliminate the avowed political enemies of labor and has already offered the services of her noted orators: Roach, Schultz, Happy Thomas and Red Davidson. But one consideration is exacted, viz.: That Davidson and Thomas be sent into different districts on account of danger that might ensue from the fiery nature of their speeches.

Bro. Gleason has returned from Rochester with credentials for a title to "kid" since losing his mustache. Chas. Collings is still on the sick list.

We are considering the question of incorporating a Local Union death benefit of one hundred dollars in our By-laws on January 1st, on the same plan as Local Union No. 2, and strictly enforcing laws governing the payment of dues and attendance at meetings through it.

Possibly our treasury would warrant making it \$150.00, which, with our Inter-

national would make \$250.00 death benefit and \$5.00 per week funeral benefit for \$1.00 per month. Where can an Electrical Worker beat this for insurance?

I would like to hear from Local Union No. 318, Knoxville. What has happened to them? I also notice our district council has been very inactive some time and trust G. V. P. Reid can give it some attention in the near future.

I hope by the time of my next letter to be able to advise you that the telephone companies have resumed work more actively than for some time.

As Bro. Dallas Baker had to go West for his health, I succeeded him at the same address as Business Agent and Financial Secretary, 717 Superior avenue.

JOHN A. CAMPBELL.

Local Union No. 45.

Sleep on dear brother thy task is over,
Those faithful hands need toil no more,
A quiet calm has stilled our breast,
Rest dear brother, gently rest.

WHEREAS, It has pleased God in His infinite wisdom, to remove from our midst, our esteemed and honored brother, Alexander McPhee; therefore be it

Resolved, That Local No. 45, bow in meek submission to the all-wise will of the Almighty, in taking from our midst our honorable and cheerful brother, with a character without a blemish. And be it further

Resolved, That while we sincerely mourn his absence and our loss, we do consider it a lesson and warning from our Heavenly Father, to be ready at all times, for the call that comes from Him that giveth and taketh, in accordance with His wisdom. Be it further

Resolved, That we tender to his bereaved wife and children our sincere condolence and earnest sympathy in the loss of one who was a man of sterling qualities. Be it further

Resolved, That we drape our charter for a period of sixty days, as a token of respect, and that a copy of these resolutions be presented to his family and to our official journal, for publication, and that a page of our records be set aside for the preservation of these resolutions.

T. J. McDOUGALL,
GEO. FLEMING,
ALEX. COX.

Local Union No. 57.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

On Sept. 27th, Bro. J. Dennis, of Local No. 57, was killed instantly by coming in contact with 4,400 volts. Bro. Dennis was running a gang for the Utah Ind. Tel. Co., and was stringing wire parallel with an

electric light lead, when the wire became crossed up with the light wires and charged the reel. Dennis stepped up to place a new coil of wire on the reel and as he laid it down it got him, and knocked him about ten feet from the reel and he never got up.

The accident happened about ten miles out of Salt Lake and he was brought into the city. On Saturday, Sept 29th, the remains were shipped back to Trinidad, Colo., accompanied by his aged mother and Bro. B. H. Nelms.

Local No. 57 turned out 175 strong, practically every man within twenty miles of town was in the funeral procession at 7 a. m., and I will assure you that Local No. 57 did credit to itself. It was the finest I ever saw of any organization, Labor or Fraternal. Local No. 57 also pays a local death benefit of \$100.00 to its members and that was paid to his mother promptly the morning after the accident, and that dear old lady certainly did appreciate what No. 57 done to help her keep up under that awful sorrow.

Too much can not be said for Mr. Jones, superintendent of the Utah Ind. Tel. Co. He did the fair thing—paid all the funeral expenses and transportation which amounted to \$250.00.

Local No. 57 bought a wreath of flowers representing the emblem of the I. B. E. W. and it was a beauty. Many prominent men of Salt Lake have complimented Local No. 57 on the way we pay our last respects to our dead.

And, as president of Local No. 57, I want to congratulate every member on the most splendid showing they made, and I tell you it almost brought the tears to the eyes of your humble servant when I looked down along the depot platform and gazed on as fine a bunch of electrical workers as ever were lined up in double file with heads uncovered bidding a last farewell to our beloved friend and brother. And that was not all; I would never be forgiven or forgive myself if I would allow this letter to be printed without paying my respects to the fair sex, the linemens better halves. There were wives, mothers, sisters, sweethearts and friends of linemen very much in evidence on that same depot platform, and I will assure you all ladies, that your humble servant who unfortunately has neither of those, appreciated your presence there very much.

Local No. 57 has lost a true friend and brother, and have adopted the following resolutions.

Trusting you will find space in your valuable columns for this letter and resolutions, I remain,

Yours fraternally,

L. LYNN.

Resolutions adopted by Local Union No. 57, I. B. E. W., in memory of our late deceased brother, J. Dennis.

WHEREAS, God in His divine mercy has been pleased to call from our midst our esteemed friend and brother, J. J. Dennis.

WHEREAS, Sorrow has thrown its sad veil over his desolate home and friends; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we in regular convention assembled do now bow in humble submission and obedience to divine will in behalf that his happier and better life is still to come; and be it further

Resolved, That we extend to his bereaved mother and friends our heartfelt sympathy in this, their great affliction. We realize how cold and vain are the words of consolation to the bereaved and wounded heart, but if sincere sympathy and fraternal love can sooth the wounds we offer them from the tenderest feelings of our hearts in their behalf; and we further

Resolve, That our charter be draped for a period of thirty days as a token of our respect to our deceased brother, and that these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this Local, a copy be forwarded to his bereaved mother and a copy be published in our official journal, the ELECTRICAL WORKER.

C. J. REEDING,
L. E. WOODWORTH,
WM. ARDEN,
Committee.

Local Union No. 67.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

I would like a few words in the WORKER to let our brothers know Local No. 67 is doing all right. The Home Tel. is building toll lines out of the city, and have put quite a number of men to work, and we are glad to see that they are employing strictly union men all through.

Our membership has increased about twenty in the past two months.

With best wishes.

Fraternally yours,
FRED MOELLER,
Press Secretary.

Quincy, Ill., Sept. 30, 1906.

Local Union No. 83

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER.

I will try and make my word good by having a letter in the WORKER every month provided there is space for them. Local No. 83 is today a larger Local, we have about 125 members in good standing. We added 19 new members to our list in the last two meetings and have many more ready to come under our wing.

Brothers, confine your secrets to your Locals and most of our troubles can be

averted in so doing. What you have to say, say it in the hall, not in the streets or in the saloons. I've heard of several things that were discussed out side of the hall, and of course it fell through like it always will. I am sure that if every brother will attend the meetings there will be no street talks and be careful who is near you when you have to discuss the business outside; there are always some who are only too glad to take news to the people that you are working for, its been done and is going on now. But, traitor, don't let the hand of justice strike you. Sooner or later you will be caught, when we get in position to demand our rights, as organized labor we can do business, but as long as our union is not recognized, we will have to do the best we can, but I hope to see the day when we will be recognized, then our battle will be won and the scab, he will have to take care of himself. Some one else will want space, so I'll ring off. I remain,

Fraternally yours,

G. K. OBERTS.

Local No. 83 has its headquarters at 318 State street.

Milwaukee, Wis., Sept. 30, 1906.

Local Union No. 86.

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God to remove from our midst our late brother Thomas J. Keenan; and

WHEREAS, The intimate relations long held by our deceased brother with the members of this Local Union render it proper that we should place on record our appreciation of his services as a brother and his merits as a man; therefore be it

Resolved, By Local Union No. 86, I. B. E. W., on the register of our books that, while we bow with humble submission to the will of the Most High, we do not less mourn for our brother who has been called from his labor to rest.

Resolved, That in the death of Thomas J. Keenan this Local Union loses a brother who was always active and zealous in his work as a brother, ever ready to succor the needy and distressed of the fraternity, prompt to advance the interests of this Local Union, devoted to its welfare and prosperity; one who was wise in counsel, and fearless in action; an honest and upright man, whose virtues endeared him not only to the brethren of his Local Union, but to all his fellow-citizens.

Resolved, That this Local Union tender its heartfelt sympathy to his family, to which he was always a kind husband and loving father, and that we all fully appreciate the predicament into which it has been placed by his death.

Resolved, That these resolutions be placed upon the minutes of this Local Union, and that a copy of them be for-

warded to the family of our deceased brother; be it further

Resolved, That we drape our charter in mourning for a period of thirty days.

JACOB L. GUERNOT,
B. W. PITT,
CHAS. WARDEN,
Committee.

Local Union No. 91.

WHEREAS, It has pleased the Almighty God to take out of this world, the soul of our beloved brother, John F. Baker; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the departure from our midst of Brother Baker leaves an aching void in our hearts, for to know him was to love and respect him for his unfailing kindness of heart and thoughtfulness for others; and, be it further

Resolved, That we drape our charter for a period of thirty days, that we send a copy of these resolutions to his family, a copy to our official Journal and that a copy be spread in full on the minutes of Local No. 91, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

W. C. PEARCE,
H. S. NOLL,
THOMAS J. GRANT,
Committee.

Local Union No. 93.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Well, it is a long time since you heard from No. 93. I have been chosen to shoot the ink for this bunch. Will state at the start that we are a small bunch of 26, but as lively as you will find any place. We are taking in a new member every now and then. Of course we have only one or two around here that does not carry the green goods, but will state that without the little paste-board you had better buy a round trip ticket if you come this way. Of course there is room for several good card linemen. Here at present there is lots of work. Street car people are doing lots of work, the Bell is rebuilding the town, the Newell street railway have lots of work on hand for good men and card men only.

Well, brothers, we turned out on Labor Day with a full Local and a few visiting brothers and succeeded in capturing the first prize of \$10.00 for the Local that turned out the biggest majority out of a membership of less than 30 members.

Well I guess I had better cut this circuit out and give some one a light on the electrical subject.

If any brother knows the whereabouts of Harry Duckworth of Local No. 142, and also William Marlow, please tell them to write me in care of Light Company.

With best wishes to the Brotherhood.

Fraternally yours,
JOHN C. HOLLAND,
Press Secretary.

East Liverpool, O., Sept. 26, 1906.

Local Union No. 101.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As it is about time for a letter from Local No. 101, will let you know that we are still improving, but we have our hands full in dealing with the Bell Tel. Co. To work as a foreman is impossible with a card, and if you are willing to drop your card you can hold the position, and, am sorry to say that several of our best card men have done so, and am sorry to say so, but we hope to gain our point here some day. The company has turned a lot of our men out and we beg to tell all brothers with cards to stay clear of this job until such time as we can place our brothers that they have let out without reason. Also wish to say that we had to meet with a misfortune in losing one of our best workers in the honorable labor movement in Bro. Martin Eilerman, who met his death while performing his duties by being electrocuted on August 21st, while working for the Interurban Railway Co. on an iron pole while pulling the slack out of a span wire and got crossed up with it and pole. The brothers all turned out to his funeral and it will long be remembered by those that attended. We are still taking in new members and wish to say that I have been elected business agent and have had grand success. With best wishes, I remain,

Yours,
F. J. GREINER,
Business Agent.

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, to call from our midst our esteemed brother, Martin Eilerman; and

WHEREAS, We mourn the loss of him who, while in life, we held dear as a brother and a friend, and while we can never more grasp his hand and see his pleasant smile, we humbly submit to him who has called our brother's spirit to the life beyond the grave; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the sudden removal of such a life from our midst leaves a vacancy and a shadow that will be deeply realized by all the members of this Local union; and be it further

Resolved, That we, as a union, in brotherly love, pay tribute to his memory by expressing our sorrow at his loss, and extend to his relatives and friends our deepest sympathy in their sad bereavement; and be it further

Resolved, That we drape our charter for a period of sixty days, and a copy of these resolutions be spread on the minutes of this Local, and a copy be sent to his bereaved wife and daughter and a copy be sent to our official journal for publication.

F. J. GREINER,
J. J. DALY,
J. R. McDANIEL,
Committee.

Cincinnati, O., Oct. 1, 1906.

Local Union No. 121.

Resolutions adopted by Local No. 121, on the death of Bro. F. C. Hecht:

WHEREAS, Our Supreme Ruler has seen fit to take from our midst our esteemed and worthy brother, F. C. Hecht.

Resolved, That we, the members of Local No. 121, do hereby express our deepest sorrow and that we extend to his bereaved wife and parents our heartfelt sympathy in this hour of their affliction; and be it further

Resolved, That we drape our charter for 30 days as a token of respect, and that a copy be sent his wife and parents, and that they be spread on the minutes, also a copy be sent to our official journal for publication.

B. A. RESER,
E. E. FIELDS,
G. SCHULTZ,
Committee.

Denver, Colo., Sept. 12, 1906.

Local Union No. 132.

Local Union No. 132, I. B. E. W., adopted the following resolutions at its last regular meeting:

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God in His infinite wisdom to remove from our midst Bro. P. J. Carpenter; and

WHEREAS, We realize in his death we have lost a true brother and a royal worker in the cause; therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of our Local Union No. 132 extend to the family of our late brother our heartfelt sympathy in their sad hour of bereavement; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent the family of our late brother, P. J. Carpenter, a copy spread on our minute book, a copy be sent to our official journal for publication; and be it further

Resolved, That the charter of Local No. 132 be draped for thirty days in memory of our deceased brother.

H. C. MOOR,
L. G. HENRY,
F. E. WILLIAMS,
Committee.

South Bend, Ind., Sept. 5, 1906.

Local Union No. 143.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Local No. 143 has not been heard from for so long that some of the brothers may think we are all dead, but such is decidedly not the case. Last month we were able with the help of Bro. McIntyre to get an agreement with the local telephone company for one year with an increase for all the men, and we are very much pleased to have the union recognized as a body to do business with.

We are very glad to see the A. F. of L.

come off the fence and declare for united political action, but are afraid that keeping the politicians in office because they make a talk that listens nice will be found to be a poor substitute for putting in men who are workingmen and who could be depended on to see that the workingmen were looked after instead of the big corporations.

If laboring men would send to Congress this year twenty-five genuine laboring men taken from the ranks, to replace that many of those who have shown themselves antagonistic to the demands of labor you would see such a rattling of dry bones in Washington as is not dreamed of; it will not do to say, that workingmen are not brainy enough to be lawmakers because some of the brightest men to be found anywhere are among the union leaders today, and furthermore what does it profit a workingman if he gets a smart lawyer in Congress and lose his own chance to better his condition; it is a notorious fact that some of our so called smart and brainy senators and congressmen are merely using their brains to keep the corporations they represent from getting it in the neck from some of the very laws that labor is asking for.

It is with deep regret that we report the of Bro. John Gilbreath, who was killed while working in Madison, O., for the Light Co. He was working on a dead arc circuit when without warning the current was turned on and he was terribly burned before help could reach him. It was found necessary to amputate his arm but the shock proved too much and he died shortly after the operation.

The Local attended the funeral in a body and at the next meeting the following was adopted:

WHEREAS, It has pleased our Heavenly Father in His infinite wisdom to remove from our midst brother John Gilbreath, and we feel that in his death we have lost a loyal brother and a faithful friend; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we drape our charter in mourning for thirty days and that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting and a copy be sent to the bereaved family and to the ELECTRICAL WORKER.

H. J. WILLIAMS,
J. J. NEWELL,
Committee.

H. J. WILLIAMS,
Press Secretary.

Ashtabula, O., Sept. 28, 1906.

Local Union No. 150.

WHEREAS, The Supreme Ruler of the Universe, in His infinite wisdom, has seen fit to send the grim destroyer again among us, and to remove from our midst our esteemed and loyal brother and president, James H. Hodgins; and

WHEREAS, His presence in labor and council will be sorely missed; and

WHEREAS, His death marks the second visit of death to our Local in two years; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, his brothers in life, express our deep sorrow for and sympathy with his bereaved family; and, be it further

Resolved, That we drape our charter for a period of 30 days, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to his family, a copy to our official journal for publication and that a page of our minute book be set aside for the inscription of this thereon.

CHAS. CRAMPTON,
S. W. ANGER,
ROY C. SWATY,
Committee.

Bay City, Mich., Sept. 28, 1906.

WHEREAS, God in His divine wisdom has been pleased to call from our midst our esteemed friend and brother, W. T. McKee.

WHEREAS, Sorrow has thrown its sad veil over his desolate home and friends; therefore be it

Resolved, That we in regular meeting assembled do bow in humble submissive obedience to the divine will in the behalf that his happier and better life is still to come; and be it further

Resolved, That we extend his bereaved friends and family our heartfelt sympathy in this their great affliction. We realize how cold and vain are the words of consolation to the bereaved and wounded heart but, if sincere sympathy and fraternal love can soothe the wounds we offer them from the tenderest feelings of our hearts in their behalf; and we further

Resolve, That our charter be draped for a period of one month as a token of our respect to our deceased brother, and that these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this Local, a copy forwarded to the bereaved family of our late brother and a copy be published in our official journal. THE ELECTRICAL WORKER.

HENRY WOLF,
E. S. HURLEY,
P. O. PETERSON,
Committee.

San Francisco, Cal., Sept. 20, 1906.

Local Union No. 155.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As I have just been appointed Press Secretary, I will try and get busy.

Local No. 155 is not dead or sleeping, but are very busy working for the good of the Order.

We are cutting in a new light most every week and fair prospects for a few more.

Secretary Clarke would like to know why he can not get a reply from some of the brother secretaries in regard to applications and other business.

Work is not very flourishing here at the present but if a brother comes in with the goods he will very likely be placed.

We made ourselves proud Labor Day as we took first prize in a parade of forty different crafts.

Our float represented our trade to a T. on the wagon was two poles with cross arms, and tel. wire and cable with cable boxes, and a telephone on each end of the float.

A small gasoline engine running a generator and making the stuff, each one of the boys carried a small cane with an eight candle power on it and three thirty-two's on our new banner.

We were cheered time after time along the line of march and were complimented by different trades, before the judges gave their decision, that were competing for first money.

We claim the largest membership now that we have ever had, and the fewest owing any back dues even for September. Haven't we a right to hold our head high?

Wishing the brotherhood success, I remain,

Yours fraternally,
AL. WALLER,
Press Secretary.

Oklahoma City, Okla., Oct. 1, 1906.

Local Union No. 162.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

I believe it has been a long time since Local No. 162 has had a letter in the WORKER and some of the brothers are beginning to feel as though we ought to wake up a little in this matter and let the brothers over the country know that No. 162 is not only here, but here to stay, and that we are in fine condition.

Following the policy that we can learn from older Orders and that it is well to let them know and become acquainted with us. We have committees representing our brotherhood in the Central Labor body and the Building Trades council.

Old No. 162 is certainly in fine shape with every prospect good for the future. There is at present only a very small percent working here now who are not members of the I. B. E. W., and it gives me great pleasure to be able to state those few who at present do not carry the card are getting their heads to work and are lining up. There is not a meeting nowadays that does not bring in one or more new members. If the same gait keeps up a few weeks longer, we can show a solid front.

There are nearly always a few who seem unable to grasp even the simplest principles of unionism or don't want to until they are forced to do so, but I have found that a large number of the slow ones after they once break from outside influence and become members thereby learn what it really means to be a union man, become good, solid, earnest workers for the Order.

There has been and is yet a great deal of work here, both the Bell and the Omaha L. & P. Co. have more men employed this summer than they ever had before at this point, but at present it is holding steady and very few men are being put on.

We meet every Tuesday and are always glad to see visiting brothers. Wishing our brotherhood every success.

Fraternally,

J. H. BENHAM,
Press Secretary.

Omaha, Neb., Sept. 30, 1906.

Local Union No. 163.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Well, as old one sixty-three has not been saying anything for a long time it is not because she is behind the time for she is very much ahead of the time just now. Just cleared up our last trouble in Wilkes-Barre for the electrical workers after one year of hard fighting we have settled with the last company. We have a uniform wage scale through the Wyoming Valley now for the first and second class men. The only thing that is lacking is just as soon as the trouble is all cleared up the boys began to stop coming to the meeting and some of them fell back in their dues. Now boys you all know what makes a success of anything, attend to it, so if you want your local to succeed attend to the meetings and above all pay your dues and she is sure to make a success and we need you all to the meetings. Don't let a few of the members do it all. Don't say well, I am going to see my better half tonight, and another say, I am going to the show, there is nothing interesting at the meeting. Think of your Local.

I will ring off, wishing each and every one a success, I remain,

Yours fraternally,

D. H. ELERT.
Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Oct. 1, 1906.

Local Union No. 176.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Hoping you will find space in the WORKER for the few words I have to say, perhaps some of the brothers would like to hear from me, especially the boys from Locals that I haven't visited. Perhaps they think that I am never coming to see them. Well, brothers, I am coming just as soon as I can. You see I have so much to do that I can't start to work in one place and

leave it undone, it must be finished. I find some Locals in very bad shape. Some Locals that haven't held a meeting for five and six months, so you see they ought to be looked after, and besides I don't like to spend too much money for railroad fare, for we haven't got great deal of it at present, and you see that we ought to be careful about spending the money because it may come in handy some day for some of the boys may be locked out any day, so lets not spend all our money on railroads for they have their share.

And, there are some of our locals that haven't paid in their per capita to our District Council, so now if I were the president of the District Council, I would let them know just where they stand, and I really believe its about time that our grand officers be looking those things up. The greatest trouble we have with our boys is that they don't take enough interest in the organization. If we would go to work and put our District Council officers, outside of Bro. McDonald, in one bag and dump them out in the lake, we wouldn't know which to save for the best man. Even some of our members of the District Executive Board to get a job as line wagon foreman had to drop his card. Well, maybe they will learn some day. What encouragement is there for the organizer when he writes to his District Vice President and don't get a reply. Don't think for one moment that one man can organize this country in six or seven months. It is the duty of every brother to help a little. Let us take just a little more pride in our organization and put it where it belongs—on top.

Our pride in unionism is to be constructed as our characters are, that the lines we put up be the best, the buildings we wire be wired good. In organizing a union it is well that the officers be of the best material, they should be mechanics. Men conscious of the needs of their fellow craftsman that will at all times stand for right; that are willing to bring forth their effort and favorable argument in behalf of our union principles found in the inside cover of our constitution. Men void of prejudice, having unbiased minds and sound judgment in our laboring fields will enlarge our powers and a period of short duration shall elapsed when we will command the respect of the business world.

Think unionism, brothers, and talk it. It matters not what may come before the people, it never gains popularity unless we talk about it and remember, we seldom talk about anything unless we are enthused over it; we must have a pride in it. Electrical Workers why should we not be proud of our trade, its no more of a luxury altogether but it is becoming a necessity of the world. Brothers our trade ought to be on top of all the trades yet we don't get as much for our work as the teamsters do in Chicago, so brothers lets get together and ask only for a just

share of the fruits of our labor. We are human as others, we live to be happy and enjoy ourselves, we are organized with this purpose in view, is it wrong for us to desire short work day and a living wage? Shall we not become joyful, and shall we not be proud when we realize that labor organizations are the mediums of our happiness and prosperity in our homes. Union men are working for better wages and shorter hours; capitalists rejoice when they discover a means instrumental in increasing their riches and oftentimes they practice what they say is wrong in us. Do not they combine? They never cease in their all absorbing greed for gain. We ask for little and they lock us out. They ask for much and too many are willing to give them all except a bare existence. How glad we are if we can give wife an advance that has been granted us of 25 or 35 cents per day—it makes home better and happier. It means what? A better hour, better furnishings, more books, more education, a better social standing and above all an independent ease that a low wage earner never knows. Suppose you have worked hard all day and the day was ten hours or more, you come home tired, discouraged, perhaps the wages are small. When you have had your meal you feel as though you must retire in order that your strength may be renewed for the morrow. No time to spend a few hours with wife and children; no time to cultivate talent or create happiness in your home; wife toils on with the monotony of a pauper's life, her poor heart breaking in sympathy with the husband, always in fear lest he lose his job and can't get another; agonizing because his loved ones may suffer; your wife would like to have a home instead of a tenement house, furniture instead of boards and boxes, a feeling of contentment and happiness rather than misery and sadness. You say, I can't afford the luxuries for my wife. Do you not see the manner in which I am compelled to labor for the very necessities of life? If there are any means whereby I may better my condition I will gladly accept them.

There is. The union comes to your rescue and sincerely, sir, it is the working-man's only protection, but there is so many that will listen to the boss when he tells you that the great curse of the laboring people is unions. This is his argument to keep you in slavery and if you are easy enough to be misled by the boss, then just so much longer will you live in slavery. Your condition has remained the same so long until you are now cowed. You are afraid to assert yourself. You feel that others are above you in God given rights. A mistake; there is a place and a good living for you. Your education may have been neglected, but you may help pave for your children the way to knowledge. Your path may be

wearisome, but strive for the elevation of future generations.

Again, I repeat, your condition can be bettered if you give unionism your support.

JOHN NEGORINSKE,

District Organizer Council No. 3, Fifth District, Indiana and Illinois.

Local Union No. 204.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As Press Secretary I will drop a few lines from No. 204. We are still doing business at the same old stand. Brothers, if you could have seen us on Labor Day, you would have seen us in our glory in the parade. We had the best float that was out and they all had them. We had a little of every thing on ours, had big fan and was running it from the trolley and that was what took the people's eyes and woke some of the dead ones up for we have taken a new member or two in every meeting night since. So if this don't find the waste basket, I will write again.

Yours up to date,

Press Secretary No. 204.

Springfield, O., Oct. 1, 1906.

Local Union No. 216.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As No. 216 has been silent so long, I will try to write a few lines to let the members in general know that we are still in existence and very much alive. We are doing some organizing with the assistance of the B. T. C. of this city. The Bartenders were organized last week and we expect to get the Barbers organized this week and hope to get the Retail Clerks in line in the near future. We are going to advocate the union label stronger than ever before in Owensboro; we see the need of more union made goods and we ask the earnest co-operation of the members everywhere in this matter. This is the only way to eliminate the sweat shop which must go.

Work here is fairly good, all members working; the Home Tel. Co. is talking of rebuilding here in the near future.

Bro. Chas. Berry is building an exchange at Habit, this county for the C. T. & T. Co. Bro. L. Bibb is working in Evansville, Ind., at present. Bro. Walker of Central City recently completed some work here for the Postal Tel. Co.

If Bro. Robt. Clayton sees this, write me. Well I will close for this time.

Wishing all members success, I remain,

Yours in I. B. E. W.,

E. L. MITCHELL.

Owensboro, Ky., Sept. 30, 1906.

Local Union No. 237.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

No. 237 is still alive and doing business. We meet every first and third Thursday of each month at the corner of Erie and Broadway; if some of our brothers have forgotten our meeting nights, please bear this in mind.

Everybody around here is busy at present and there seems to be plenty of work. We have not seen a floater around here all summer so I guess there is plenty of work all over.

No. 237 turned out in the parade here on Labor Day with thirty in line; we all had white suits and we made a good showing, if I do say it myself. We placed a fine on those not turning out in the parade as some did not get up in time and some had to go away, but those kind of excuses does not go here.

Yours fraternally,

G. D. CHAPMAN,

Press Secretary.

Lorain, O., Oct. 1, 1906.

Local Union No. 253.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

I am a little late with this report, but we have been having a pretty hard time to get the boys to attend meeting especially about the time it come election of officers, but our officers are as follows: President, Frank Thomas, 1422 M st, W; Vice President, S. J. Conrad, 1414 4th ave, E; Recording Secretary, Fred Thomas, 523 7th ave, E; First Inspector, Jerry Railsbach, 315 S. 15th st, E; Treasurer, Jack Weiderman, C. R. & M. Tel. Co.; Financial Secretary, Tony Weidlech, C. R. & M. Tel. Co.; Foreman, Chas. Eisentrant, Bell Tel. Co.

Local No. 253 is getting along nicely and we are taking applications right along. The Locals of Cedar Rapids have organized a S. B. T. A. and we are having a little trouble with some of the contractors. J. B. Terry & Co. is the only electrical contractor in Cedar Rapids that has signed up and he is doing the largest part of the inside wiring. They have the contract for wiring the Pawnee Cereal Company's new mill, the largest job of electrical wiring that is being done in Cedar Rapids at present. We had the pleasure of seeing one of the unfair contractors pulled off of a job the other day, and we think that there will be more of them pulled off if they don't get in line pretty soon.

Yours truly,

FRED THOMAS,

Recording Secretary.

Cedar Rapids, Ia., Sept. 22, 1906.

Local Union No. 256.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As there has been nothing in the WORKER from Local No. 256 for several

months, if you will allow me a space I will try and write a few lines.

We are not in very good condition at present, but are building up some since the strike of S. B. Tel. & Tel. Co. has been settled. Most all the boys who were idle on account of the strike have been replaced, and are getting \$2.50 and some are getting \$2.75 for nine hours instead of \$2.00 for ten hours.

While we did not get a closed shop we do not consider we lost the contest as we have proven to them that we can live without their employment about as well as they can do business without our service.

Most all the boys of No. 256 stood firm with a bold front, except a few cowards who were weak kneed and for the promise of a few dollars on the month joined hands with the company and tried to oust us, but their countenance is condemning them now.

While it is true the scabs here are realizing more money for their work than they were before the strike it doesn't seem they are happy when we meet them on their way to and from work; they pass us with a bowed down head—and no wonder.

Well, as this is my first letter to the WORKER, I will close by extending our best wishes to the brotherhood.

J. A. WHITAKER,

Press Secretary.

Local Union No. 307.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Local Union No. 307 made a great effort to obtain recognition as an up to date Local Union on Labor Day.

Sunday, Sept. 2, we had an open meeting, very largely attended, especially by men of the craft who are not members of the brotherhood; the speakers at the meeting were Bro. H. W. Potter, President and Organizer of D. C. No. 3, of First District, I. B. E. W., and E. N. Zihlman, President of Allegheny Trades Council, who both made very impressive speeches on the benefits to be derived by workmen from organization.

It is felt that the open meeting will be productive of much good to all concerned.

Monday, Sept. 3, Labor Day, Local Union No. 307 attended Labor parade in a body, but one member absent (the writer, who had been ill for some days) and later went to Trades Council picnic at Narrows Park where Bro. H. W. Potter again enthralled his audience with a masterly speech on the benefits of organization.

Thanks to brothers John Reed, Adam W. Arnold, M. Thompson and H. W. Eyer; all arrangements for open meet-

ing, parade and picnic were excellent and every one enjoyed themselves immensely.

Owing to Bro. H. W. Potters short visit there has been a heavy demand for application blanks, the effect of which we hope will be seen in P. C. reports soon.

Local Union No. 307 extends a hearty welcome to all brothers in good standing.

Fraternally yours,

W. M. LANNAN,
Financial Secretary.

Cumberland, Md., Sept. 10, 1906.

Local Union No. 313.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As Local No. 313 has been without a Press Secretary, and I have been appointed, will endeavor to fill that position to the best of my ability.

As the boys in the brotherhood know from notices appearing in the WORKER that there is a strike on in this district, and out of about 60 men that came out there has been five pieces of humanity who have skated. The rest of the boys are holding out nobly and intend to stick as quite a few are doing anything that comes their way.

Local Union No. 316.

We, being appointed the committee to draw up and adopt the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom to call from our midst our esteemed brother, William Lacey.

WHEREAS, We mourn the loss of him, whom while in life we held dear as a brother and a friend. And while we can never more clasp his hand and see his pleasant smile in life, we humbly submit to Him who has called our brother's spirit to the life beyond the grave; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the sudden removal of such a life from our midst, leaves a vacancy and a shadow that will be deeply realized by all the members of this Local Union; and be it further

Resolved, That we as a Union in brotherly love pay tribute to his memory by expressing our sorrow at his loss and extend to his relatives our deepest sympathy in their bereavement; and be it further

Resolved, That we drape our charter for a period of thirty days and a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this Local and a copy be sent to the bereaved family and one to the I. B. E. W.

H. W. FIELDING,
J. W. LANGLEY,
E. S. JONES,
Committee.

Ogden, Utah, July 13, 1906.

The boys down here have developed quite a gift for hunting information and when they don't get it they get the dumps as if somebody had given them a punch below the belt and then we have an elixir in the shape of a visit from G. V. P. Ried and P. D. C. Potter, which brightens them, and when they leave the meeting it is with a determination to stick it out to the end.

Work at present time is rather slack, as the Independent Light have about finished construction and will only keep a few men and same with Independent Telephone, so I would advise all brothers to steer away from the Blue Hen State.

Hoping the brothers will excuse any mistakes, will close, wishing best wishes to the brotherhood.

Yours fraternally,

CHAS. WOODSIDE.

Wilmington, Del., Sept. 29, 1906.

Local Union No. 350.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Many days have passed since anything has been heard from Local No. 350, we have been so busy enjoying our prosperity that we have not thought of making any noise, but now that trouble has overtaken us we have some things that we want to make known and we naturally turn our attention toward our official organ as the best means of making ourselves heard.

This Local has been noted for its prosperity, good conditions and its glad hand toward the weary and hungry floater. We have always had a bed and three meals waiting for any brother that came our way, and if there was a job in sight he was welcome to it, the only thing he was required to do, he must show his traveling card to our business agent and get a permit.

But now, we along with many other brothers in this district are fighting for our very existence. All members of our brotherhood working for the Missouri and Kansas Telephone Co. in the States of Missouri and Kansas are in the throes of the greatest struggle ever went into in this locality, and too much credit can not be given the faithful ones that have given up their jobs and effected the lock-out but are working with all their might and power to keep the job from being worked and who hang on from day to day and know that their very activity depreciates their chance of getting a job when the strike is settled.

When the time came for the members of our Local to demonstrate their loyalty and faithfulness to the brotherhood, they did it willingly and with the firm belief and realization that they were about to

enter on a fight for better wages and conditions not only for themselves but for the brother in the weak territory that was not getting as much money or enjoying the same conditions as we then enjoyed. Every man struck with the exception of one and one of the reasons of this letter is to place his name before the I. B. E. W. that they may know him should they cross his path.

His name is John B. Doolittle, he came from a small town some two years and a half ago and started with the Bell shooting trouble and through the Union he had his wages increased to \$70.00 per month. He proved to be an industrious and faithful employe and by close application to business he reached the pinnacle of wire chief for this district with the wages of \$85.00, a raise of \$15.00.

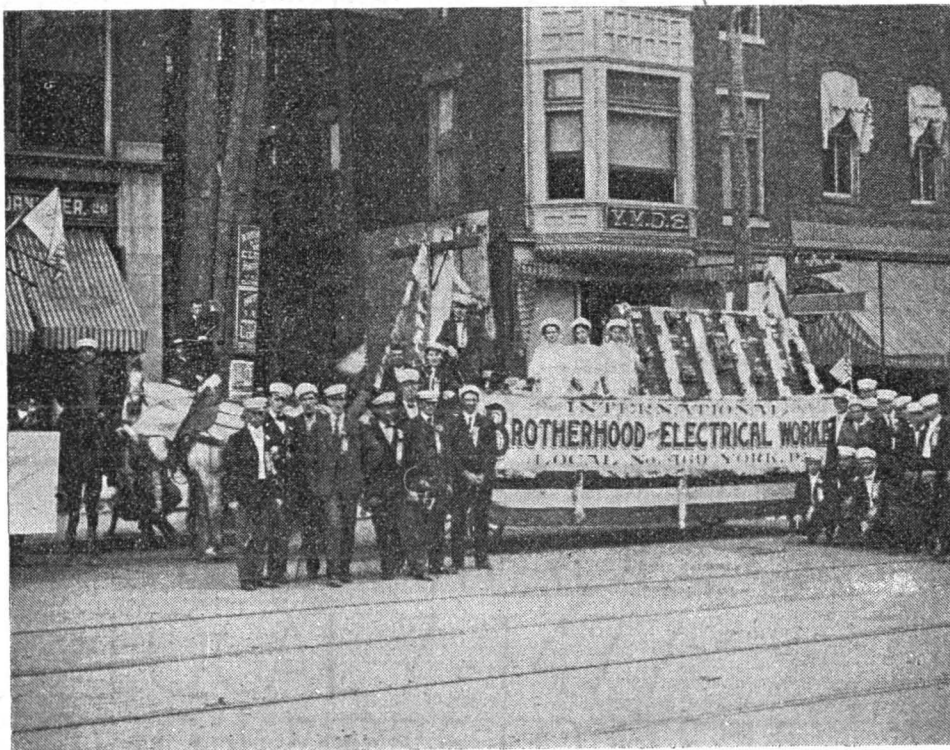
But along with the bad people in this world there are a lot of good ones and we have some of them who are dally showing their unionism by looking the trouble in the face and fighting not for the sake of sport, but because they know that their grievances are just.

In closing, I would advise any one that is fired with the desire of accumulating a stock of worldly goods or feels ambitious to rise, let your thoughts be clean and your path pure and then you will not be troubled with the nightmare of somebody calling you a scab. I am,

Yours fraternally,

MILTON JACKSON.

Hannibal, Mo., Oct. 1, 1906.



And what hurts us so much is, this fellow has been an active member in Local No. 350, getting all the benefits accruing from his membership and then when the time comes when he can manifest the brotherly love that he has talked about in our council hall, he forgets his solemn obligation made man to man and scabs. But we will hope that his path through life will be the opposite from what he has planned and that in his dreams somebody shall rise up and call him scab. To close my remarks along this line, I just enclose his resignation that he sent us after he had done his dirt.

Local Union No. 352.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

It has been some time since Local No. 352 has had a word in the WORKER, but we are still in line and doing business at the same old place.

We have recently incorporated in our By-laws a sick and accident benefit of five dollars per week providing member drawing same does not owe the Local to exceed one month's dues.

We have taken in several new members in the past three months and as every member is a business agent (or ought to be) for the Local, not many escape.

We are not taking everybody that applies in, as a journeyman for we have an examining board in working order which has to be convinced that the applicant is qualified before he obtains a journeyman's card.

In the past six months the Citizens Telephone voluntarily gave nine hours instead of ten; the St. Car Co. also come to nine hours recently, so we have gained a little and are looking for more.

We wish the brothers carrying cards out of No. 352 would examine their due books and see how they stand with us. Two months in arrears does not entitle you to sick or accident benefits. Our financial secretary is Bro. A. H. Collester, 720 Cedar street North. Don't forget we need the money.

Bro. F. McKinsey out of Terre Haute got mixed up with the St. Car Co. feeders and the ground and got quite badly burned, but is out around again.

On Saturday, September 22, about 11.30 a. m., Bro. Burt Evans came to his death on a Bell pole at the corner of Washington and Jefferson by coming in contact with a dead telephone wire that had slacked back onto the city's primaries (2,380 volts) and by the time he was taken down, life was extinct. Bro. Evans was city foreman for the Bell and was well liked and we deeply mourn his loss. Finis.

P. E. PARMENTER,
Press Secretary.

Resolutions adopted by Local No. 352, on the death of Bro. Burton Evans:

WHEREAS, Our Supreme Ruler has seen fit to take from our midst, our esteemed and worthy brother, Burton Evans.

Resolved, That we, the members of Local No. 352, do hereby express our deepest sorrow and that we extend to his bereaved sister our heartfelt sympathy in this hour of her affliction.

Resolved, That in his death this organization suffers an irreparable loss; and be it further

Resolved, That we drape our charter for a period of thirty days as a token of respect and that a copy of these resolutions be sent to his bereaved sister and friends and that these resolutions be spread on the minutes; also that a copy be sent to our official journal for publication.

P. COLLESTER,
E. PARMENTER,
C. EDDINGTON,
Committee.

Local Union No. 356.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

As no member of No. 356 has written you regarding our strike with the Missouri and Kansas Tel. Co. throughout their entire district, which takes in the states of Missouri and Kansas, I will take the liberty to do so. For the past four months, the different locals in said territory, have been trying to get better conditions for their members. They exhausted every honorable means but to no avail. The Company simply kept putting them off from month to month until patience ceased to be a virtue and after several conferences between the District Council and the officials of aforesaid company a strike was declared. Said strike declared on the night of August 22, 1906, and the following morning the men walked out to a man. We have about 1,100 men out in said territory and all are made of the right kind of stuff. The company is now practically whipped and are almost ready to acknowledge it. As near as can be ascertained there has been but about 10 men go back in the entire territory. I would suggest that the Electrical Workers start a scabs gallery and snap these fellows picture and publish same in our journal, also have them framed and hung up in their halls. The company is unable to get any men so we have them at our mercy. I will not take up your time in trying to explain entire situation so will close, asking you to kindly find a little space in your next publication for this.

Thanking you in advance, I remain,
Yours fraternally,

C. A. SCHLAPP.
Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 17, 1906.

Local Union No. 496.

EDITOR ELECTRICAL WORKER:

Recording Secretary's report for September, 1906, Local Union No. 496, I. B. E. W.:

Petroleum Telephone Co. want linemen and three good cable splicers, three months steady work. The Western Union Telegraph Co. want linemen in Oil City.

National Transit Telephone Co. want linemen.

New work: Citizens Traction Co., rebuilding power house in Oil City and Pet Telephone Co. doing some new work in and around city.

Number of meetings held during September, four. Number of candidates initiated in September, eighteen.

JOHN M. DELO,
Recording Secretary.
Oil City, Pa., Sept. 29, 1906.

THE I. W. W.

INTERNATIONAL MUSICIAN.

In contrast with the A. F. of L., the so-called Industrial Workers of the World are doing all in their limited power to injure organization, and have proved of invaluable aid to the union-smashing Citizens' Alliance in attacks upon weak or isolated locals. Their contemptible tactics in picking up our unfair material is earning them the deserved contempt of all fairminded men; regardless of whether they are members of unions or not. The majority of the American people are in favor of fair play, and will not tolerate an organization that is maintaining itself by picking up the degenerates of the legitimate trades union move-

ment, who, like coyotes and hyenas, hang upon the skirts of the line of the march of progress to pick up the refuse and offal thrown aside, and watch for an opportunity to pounce upon the weak and defenseless. Some well-meaning people may be deceived by this organization of trades union pirates, but as soon as such understand the true animus of the leaders of this movement, they will quickly repudiate it, bag and baggage. The I. W. W. should be considered and treated as an ally of the Citizens' Alliance, in its futile effort to impede the progress of true trades unionism in this country.

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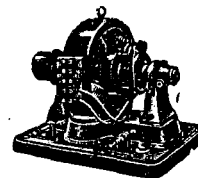


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ABOUT THE TRADE UNION.

CINCINNATI CHRONICLE.

Unionism has great questions of progress to consider. They involve the perpetuity of civilization itself. It is, accordingly, a very narrow unionist who wastes his time in pointing out the petty faults of his fellow unionists.

The trades unionist is the truest friend of civilization, but we must not relax our work, but strive with more vim and vigor. Public opinion is gradually being educated our way. Our leaders are doing a great work in securing to the workers the rights which belong to them.

The hostility to trade unionism displayed by the exponents of "radical" reform is an unintentional compliment to the former institution, since it arises from the fact that the trades union, by accomplishing practical results, holds the workers true to the course of real progress.

Labor unions are built upon too solid a foundation for any "secret" association of employers to wreck. Organizations that will not bear the searchlight of publicity never accomplish anything. The finish of all citizens' union wrecking associations is already in sight. Peace to their ashes.

Protection protects everybody but the workingman, and he must depend on his union to protect him. The worker must depend on his union to increase his wages, and if the tariff were four times what it is now, the laborer would not receive one cent more for his work. The bosses would simply pocket the difference as they are now doing.

The labor movement must be kept pure or it will prove a curse instead of a

blessing to the workers. If a limb of the human body becomes diseased, it must either be cured or amputated. If a labor union falls under the influence of bad men, it must be liberated, or it will, to some extent, cause great damage to the whole movement.

In practice, even the best intentioned government is forced to abandon much of the principle upon which it is elected. There is much wisdom in the observation that "political parties usually begin their existence in protest against great evils of some kind, and as frequently degenerate into organizations for procuring office or for saving men the trouble to think for themselves."

Great results can not be achieved at once, and we must be satisfied to advance in life, as we walk, step by step. It has been said that anybody can be a "knocker," but it requires a considerable amount of brains to be a consistent booster. The labor movement of today is growing as a result of persistent boosting, and those who, from design or otherwise, do the hammer act, can not permanently retard its forward progress.

Trades unionism has its faults, of course, but these are very largely the faults of numbers, not of principle or methods. We are not numerous enough; that's the trouble. How to increase our numbers, that is the ever present problem. It is a problem that can only be solved by adherence to first principles, i. e., religious organization for religious purposes, political organizations for political purposes, political organizations for political purposes.

DO YOU WANT IT?

QUINCY LABOR NEWS.

The "open shop" means porterhouse steak for the employer and liver for the workman.

The "open shop" means individual bargaining, so much desired by the opponents of organizer labor.

The "open shop" stands for the unfettered employment of women and children.

The "open shop" means that the employer shall be the sole judge as to what your labor is worth.

The "open shop" gives the employer the privilege of being a member of an organization intended to prevent the payment of better wages, but denies the laborer the right to be a member of a labor organization.

The "open shop" bars the possibility of a solid front on the part of the workers.

The "open shop" declares that some can better conditions while others can enjoy the benefits without cost.

The "open shop" denies men the right to sell their labor under any conditions they elect.

The "open shop" declares there is no "living line"—no minimum—for the price of labor.

The "open shop" declares it is legal for an individual to do an act that it is illegal for a collection of individuals to attempt.

The "open shop" would place the solution of factory sanitation and ungarded machinery in the hands of the employer.

The "open shop" stands for everything that will increase profits for the employer and decrease the income of the employee.

The "open shop" means that the employer will be the master and you will be the slave.

OCT 1906

"YANKEE" TOOLS

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"Yankee" Tools are sold by all leading dealers in tools and hardware everywhere.

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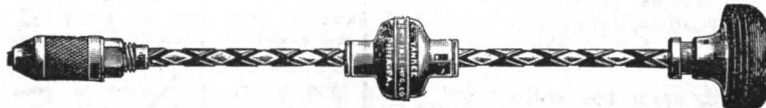
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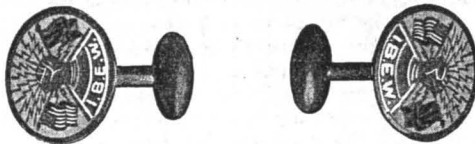
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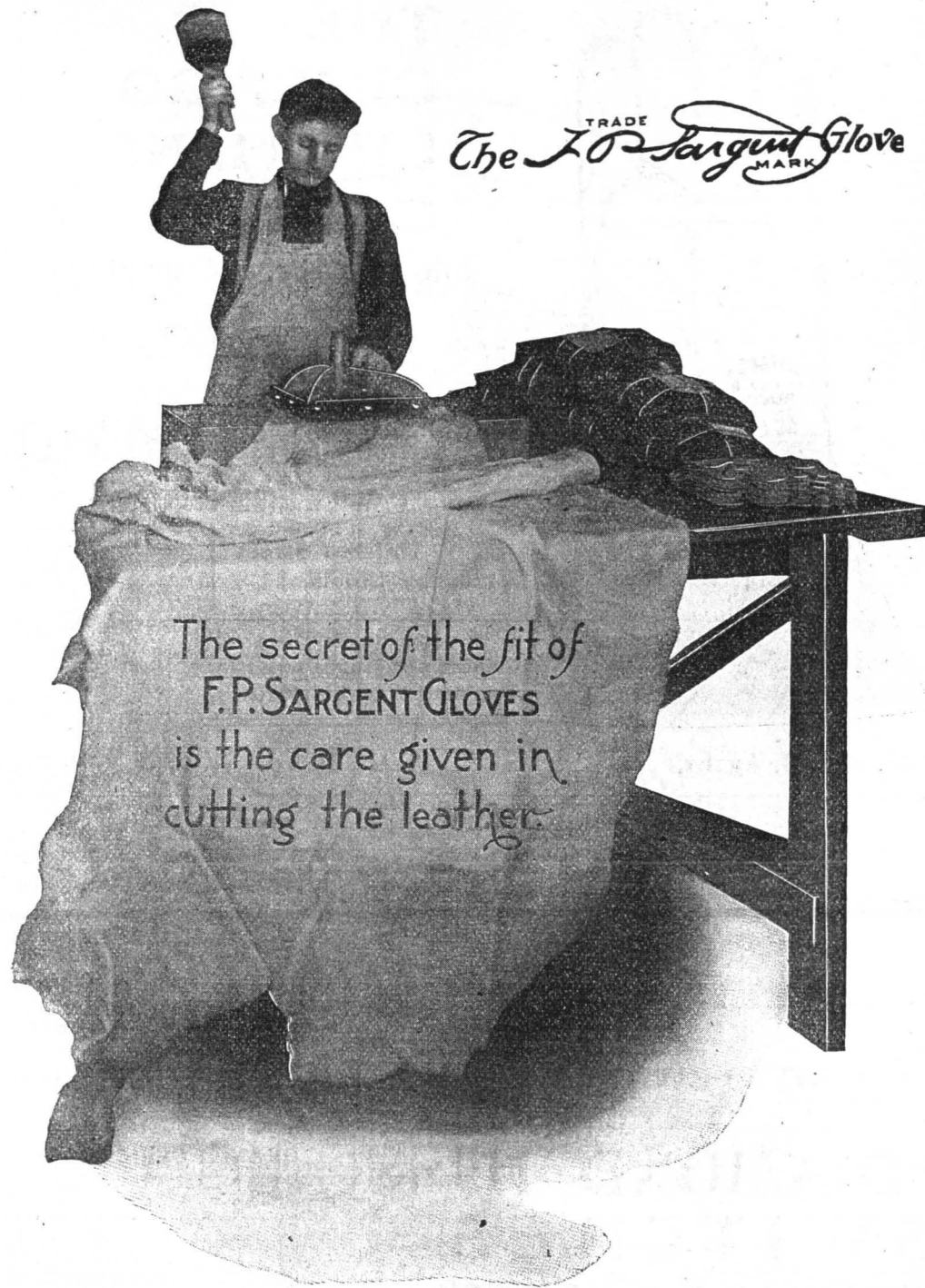
Clarence Warmington has been dubbed "HOT STUFF" by the railroad boys of the Southern Pacific. He has won that extra appendix to his name by his numerous fast runs. He was recently transferred from a Yuma freight run to the regular passenger trip to Santa Ann. On last Saturday he pulled out of the Arcade depot fourteen minutes late and made the run to Santa Ann, a distance of thirty-four miles, in forty-nine minutes, making several slowdowns and eleven stops. He ran in on time. Several Sundays ago he touched the high-water mark on the run to Santa Monica, making the run in twenty-one minutes. Again on this last Sunday, according to a railroader who kept "tab" on the telegraph poles, Warmington was spurring along for a short time at the rate of 78 miles per hour. He is as full of fast runs as a boy is of candy on Christmas morning.

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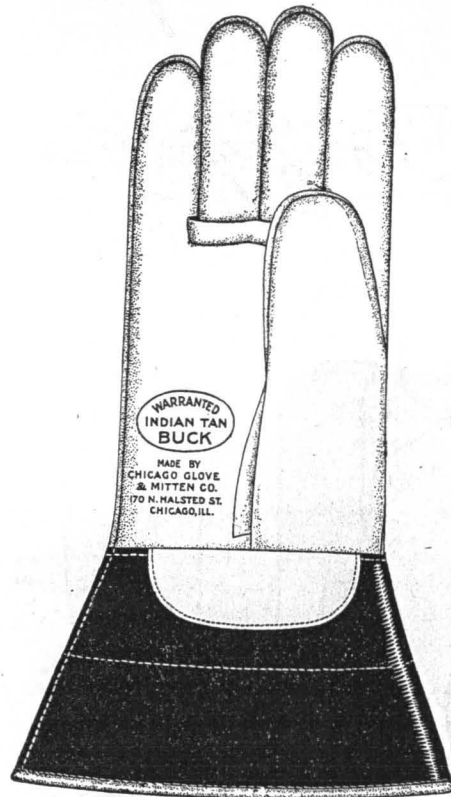


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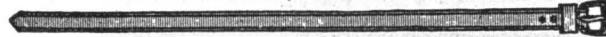
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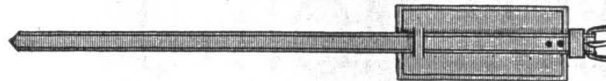
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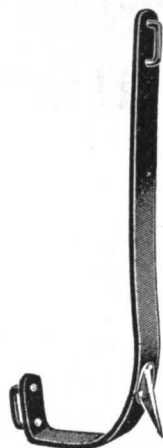
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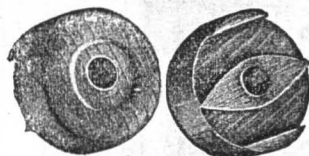
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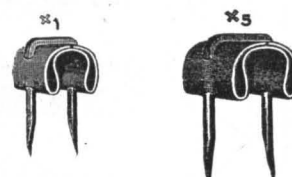
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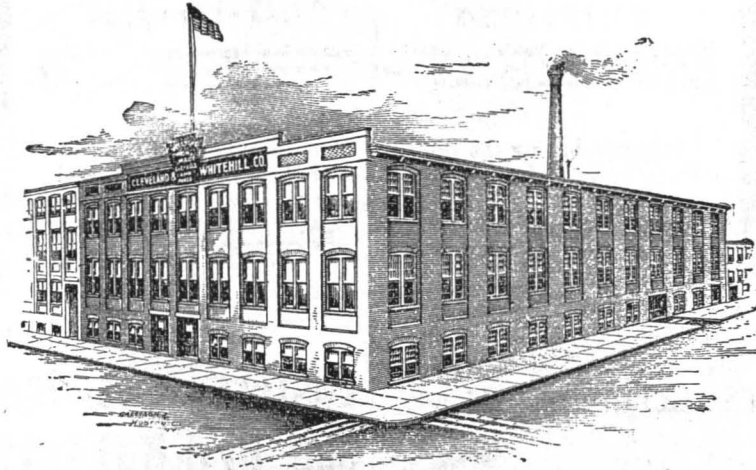
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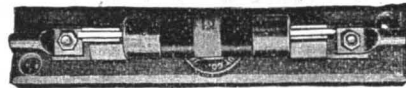
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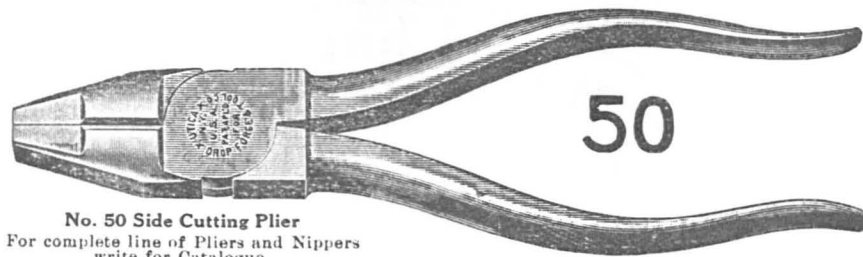
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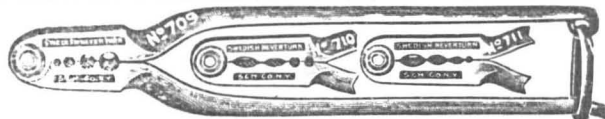
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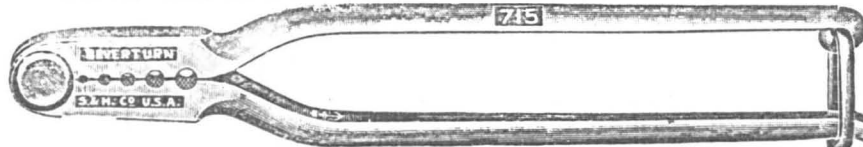
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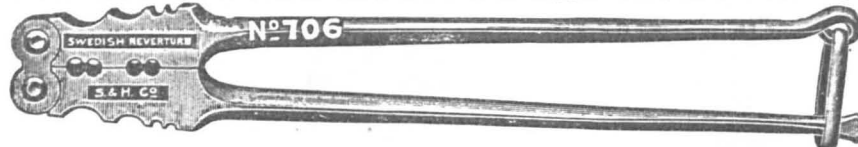
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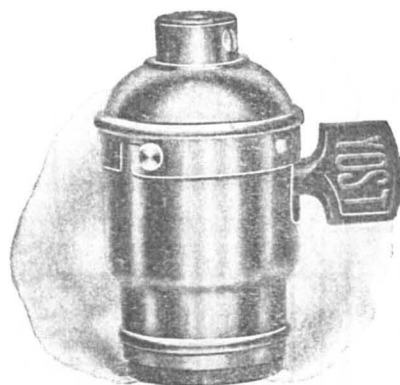
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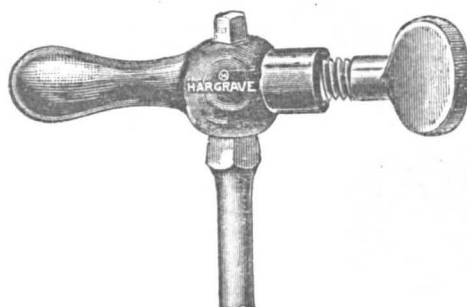
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